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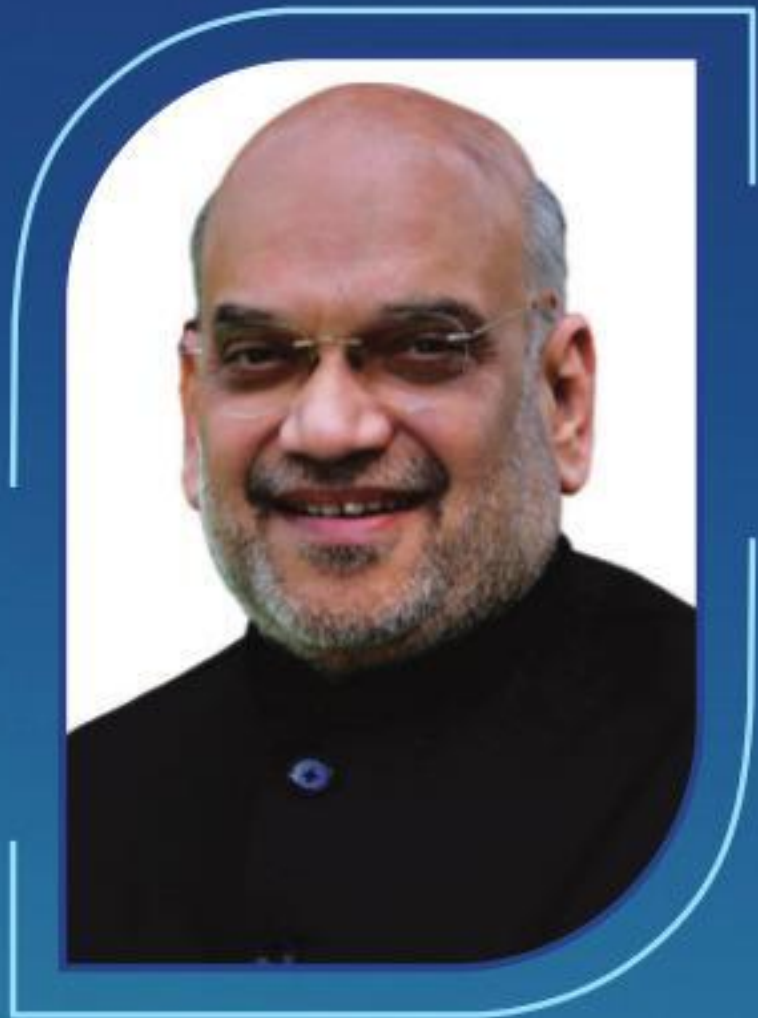
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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Shri Sarbananda Sonowal
Hon'ble Union Minister of Ports,
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Government of India



Shri Hardeep Singh Puri
Hon'ble Union Minister of Petroleum
and Natural Gas and Housing &
Urban Affairs, Government of India



General Manoj Pande
PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC
Chief of the Army Staff (India)

Panel Discussion-I: Building Global Brands

(02:30 pm - 03:30 pm)

Session Moderator:

Mr Parikshit Luthra
Bureau Chief (Editorial & Content)
CNBC-TV18

Panelist:

Mr Rajeev Juneja
Vice Chairman & Managing Director
Mankind Pharma Ltd

Mr Abhishek Khaitan
Managing Director
Radico Khaitan Ltd

Mr Sujeet Kumar
Co-founder, Udaan

Panel Discussion-II: Building Future Businesses

(03:30 pm - 04:30 pm)

Session Moderator:

Mr Parikshit Luthra
Bureau Chief (Editorial & Content)
CNBC-TV18

Panelist:

Mr Devansh Jain
Executive Director, INOXGFL Group

Mr Deepak Jain
Chairman, Lumax Group

Mr Pushp Jain
Deputy Managing Director, KLJ Plasticizers Ltd

Mr Riju Jhunjhunwala
Chairman & Managing Director, RSWM Ltd

Panel Discussion-III: Inspiring Women Leaders Business & Beyond

(04:30 pm - 05:30 pm)

Session Moderator:

Ms Ritika Jhanji Jagtiani
TV Anchor & Presenter

Panelist:

Ms Ritu Dalmia
Celebrity Chef & Co-Owner
Diva Restaurant

Ms Ruchi Kalra
Co-Founder, OfBusiness

Ms Shaili Chopra
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His evergreen revolution: Rise in productivity, but no ecological harm



M S SWAMINATHAN

1925-2023

HARISH DAMODARAN
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

NORMAN BORLAUG may have been the Father of the Green Revolution, but its architect in India was undoubtedly Mankombu Sambasivan Swaminathan.

The agricultural scientist, who passed away Thursday after turning 98 on August 7, was hardly 30 in 1955 when he heard from Hitoshi Kihara, the well-known wheat geneticist from Japan, about Norin-10, a semi-dwarf variety bred at an experimental station in that country's Iwate Prefecture.

Swaminathan had, in late-1954, joined the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) at New Delhi as an assistant cytogeneticist. This was after a PhD from Cambridge University, UK and a two-year postdoctoral stint at Wisconsin, US, where he worked on potato

THE WORLD



STUDENT GUNMAN HELD AFTER KILLING TWO IN ROTTERDAM UNIVERSITY [PAGE 19](#)

GOVT & POLITICS



COMMUNAL SLURS IN HOUSE: COMPLAINTS GO TO PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE [PAGE 12](#)

EXPLAINED

FOREIGN POLICY MALDIVES POLLS AND INDIA [PAGE 20](#)

Untold story of a rescue op: A transport aircraft, an unlit runway and 90 minutes

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

THE LIGHTS of the C-130J Super Hercules transport aircraft twinkled in the inky blackness of the night. Without navigational aids or guiding lights, the pilots were almost blindsided as the aircraft approached the narrow, damaged airstrip at Wadi Seidna in Sudan. The weather had deteriorated too — the aircraft hit turbulence as it encountered severe icing. The risks were high. The



The IAF Super Hercules engines were kept running, in case the aircraft had to take off at short notice. *Indian Air Force*

wreckage of an aircraft lay off the airstrip. Had it been shot at? No one knew.

Yet, for the pilots and Garud Commandos on board the C-130J, the call of duty — to rescue a group of stranded Indians — far outweighed any sense of risk.

Hours after the grey turboprop craft touched down on the bumpy airstrip, the Indian Air Force had pulled off one of the most daring operations it has ever conducted — rescuing 121 Indians stuck in and around the Sudanese capital of Khartoum as part of Operation Kaveri in April this year.

This is the story of that mission.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

COURT-APPOINTED COMMITTEE OF RETIRED JUDGES

Protect worship places, properties of displaced: SC panel to Manipur

Direction in wake of vandalism; police say 386 religious places were targeted

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

WITH PLACES of worship being vandalised in the ethnic clashes that have roiled Manipur since May, a three-member committee of former judges, constituted by the Supreme Court, has asked the state government to “immediately identify” all religious buildings in the state and protect them from damage, destruction and encroachment.

The panel has also asked the state to ensure “the protection of the properties of the displaced persons as well as the properties which have been destroyed/ burnt in the violence and prevent their encroachment”.

“The Government of Manipur should immediately identify all religious buildings in the State (which would include Churches; Hindu Temples; Sanamahis Temples; Mosques and any building of any other religion) whether existing at present or vandalised/ damaged/ burnt in the violence which started on 03.05.2023,” the committee recommended in its

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MOB BID TO STORM CM'S HOUSE FOILED [PAGE 16](#)



Naorem Roshibina Devi won the silver in the women's 60-kg wushu on Thursday. *PTI*

Wushu player from Manipur breaks down, dedicates silver medal to state



MIHIR VASAVDA
HANGZHOU, SEPTEMBER 28

MINUTES AFTER winning a wushu (martial arts) silver, tears flowed down Naorem Roshibina Devi's face. These, however, weren't tears of joy.

While in Hangzhou, her mind was on the ethnic violence back home in Manipur.

Hailing from Bishnupur district, one of the epicentres of ethnic clashes between the Meitei and Kuki communities that have kept the state on the boil for months now, Devi, a Meitei, said she's spent sleepless nights worrying about her parents.

“I dedicate this medal to Manipur,” she said, flashing the silver minutes after going down to China's Wu Xiaowei in the final. “I want to dedicate this medal to those who have been protecting and fighting for us.”

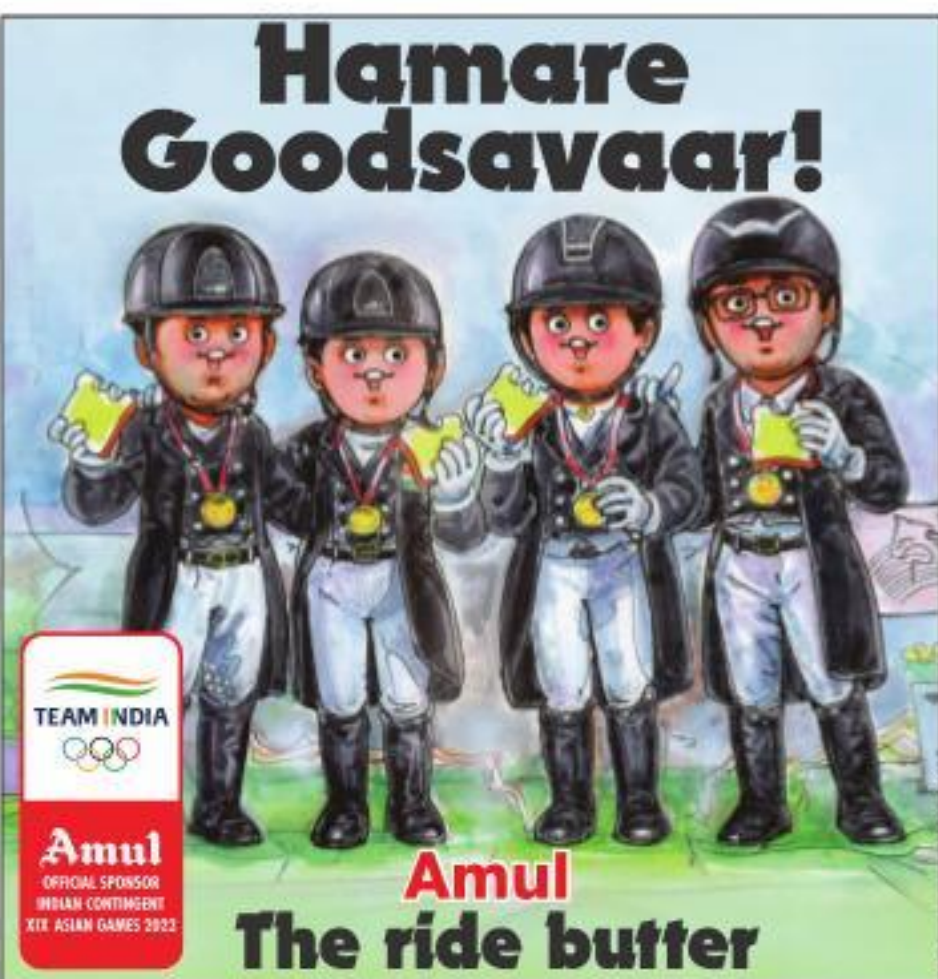
The silver was an improvement on the bronze she won five years ago in Jakarta. And when

she stepped off the podium at the Xiaoshan Guali Sports Centre, Devi spoke from the heart.

She recounted how her father, Naorem Dhamu, has had to step out in the middle of the violence to “protect the village”; mother Romila Devi takes part in night vigils; and siblings have been confined to their room for months because they are too young.

“There have been times when I have wondered if I will be able to talk to them again,” Devi said. “I don't know what will happen to us. *Abhi pura dar ke baitha hua hai* (We are living in a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Aizawl ignores Delhi: Won't do biometrics of Myanmar refugees

SUKRITA BARUAH
GUWAHATI, SEPTEMBER 28

IN A significant decision, the Mizoram government has declared that it will not be collecting biometric data of Myanmar refugees in the state, ignoring a direction by the Centre.

In April this year, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs had directed the governments of both Mizoram and Manipur, which share borders with Myanmar, to capture the biometric and biographic details of “illegal immigrants” in their states. In June, it directed the states that the campaign be completed by the end of September and directed both to prepare a plan and initiate the process.

The government of Mizoram,



A political issue, says Zoramthanga government

which is headed for elections by the end of this year, has opened its doors to refugees fleeing the army crackdown in Myanmar and has earlier too ignored the Centre's orders to close the border. The Chin people in Myanmar share a common ethnicity with the Mizos.

Now, while the Zoramthanga-led Mizo National Front (MNF) government has said it won't be collecting the biometric data of refugees, the Manipur government too has

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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CHANDIGARH
21 NOV
9 AM

LUCKNOW
20 OCT
5 PM

BHOPAL
20 OCT
5 PM

PUNE
20 NOV
8 AM & 5 PM

HYDERABAD
10 OCT

JAIPUR
21 SEPT

GS
2024

DELHI: 15 SEPT
9 AM

30 SEPT
5 PM

AHMEDABAD: 10 July | SIKAR: 4 September | PUNE: 3 July
CHANDIGARH: 7 August | BHOPAL: 17 August | LUCKNOW: 7 August
HYDERABAD: 4 Sept | JODHPUR: 21 August & 11 September
JAIPUR: 1 September

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LUCKNOW: 10 जनवरी, 9 AM

2024 - DELHI: 25 जुलाई & 5 सितंबर

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BRIEFLY

2020 riots: Court orders charges against two

New Delhi: A sessions court here has ordered framing of charges against two accused in a case of 2020 northeast Delhi communal riots. It, however, rapped the Delhi Police for "incomplete investigation" of three additional complaints that were clubbed with the case, and referred the matter to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) concerned to make an appraisal of the "moonshine investigation" conducted by the Investigating Officer (IO). Additional Sessions Judge Pulastya Pramachala was hearing a case against Firoz Khan and Mohammed Anwar, who were accused of being part of a riotous mob that committed vandalism and loot at a godown in Karawal Nagar on February 24, 2020. They were also accused of attempting to set the godown on fire. **PTI**

Gurgaon: Driver robbed of car, wallet

Gurgaon: A driver was robbed of a car, wallet, and phone at gunpoint and assaulted by four men in Gurgaon Sector 29 on Wednesday, police said. According to police, they received information on Thursday that a man, Sandeep Kumar, a Najafgarh resident, was robbed at gunpoint and a car was stolen. Based on his complaint, an FIR under various sections was registered at DLF SEC 29 police station. **ENS**

Will you resign if nothing comes of CBI enquiry: CM to PM on house row

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

DAYS AFTER the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registered a Preliminary Enquiry into the alleged irregularities in the construction and renovation of Arvind Kejriwal's official residence, the Delhi Chief Minister challenged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to resign if nothing came of the enquiry.

"This is not the first time that something like this has happened. It shows that the PM is nervous," Kejriwal said on the sidelines of an event on Thursday.

"Till date, they have started over 50 enquiries. They say there has been a liquor scam, a bus scam or a school or road scam. They have filed over 33 cases against me and conducted investigations over the last eight years since I became the Delhi Chief Minister. They have not found anything so far so they have started a new enquiry now. We welcome this but they will not find anything, just like they didn't find anything ear-



Delhi CM said enquiry against him started as he was 'not willing to bend in front of the BJP government.'

lier," Kejriwal said.

Kejriwal said that the enquiry against him was started because he was not willing to bend in front of the BJP government.

"They want me to capitulate in front of them, they want to break me. That will not happen, Kejriwal will not bend. They are free to start as many enquiries as they want," he said.

Issuing a challenge to the PM, he said, "If nothing comes of this

enquiry, just like in the previous enquiries, will you resign?"

Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president Virendra Sachdeva said Kejriwal's "challenge" was symptom of his nervousness after having understood that it was "his turn to go behind bars" after his former cabinet colleagues Manish Sisodia and Satyendar Jain.

Terming the CM's statement as absurd, Sachdeva said, "Arvind Kejriwal feels that by speaking against the Prime Minister he will get public sympathy but he should note that every time he opens his mouth against the PM, he loses whatever little public support he had."

On Tuesday, a letter was sent to the Public Works Department (PWD) of Delhi government, asking them to provide all the documents showing that the existing structure at the CM's residence in Delhi is a load-bearing structure, besides the recommendation, approval, and request from the client to execute "work of superior specification" related with the construction and renovation.

Uninterrupted footpaths, cycle tracks and table-top crossings: The new Mathura Road

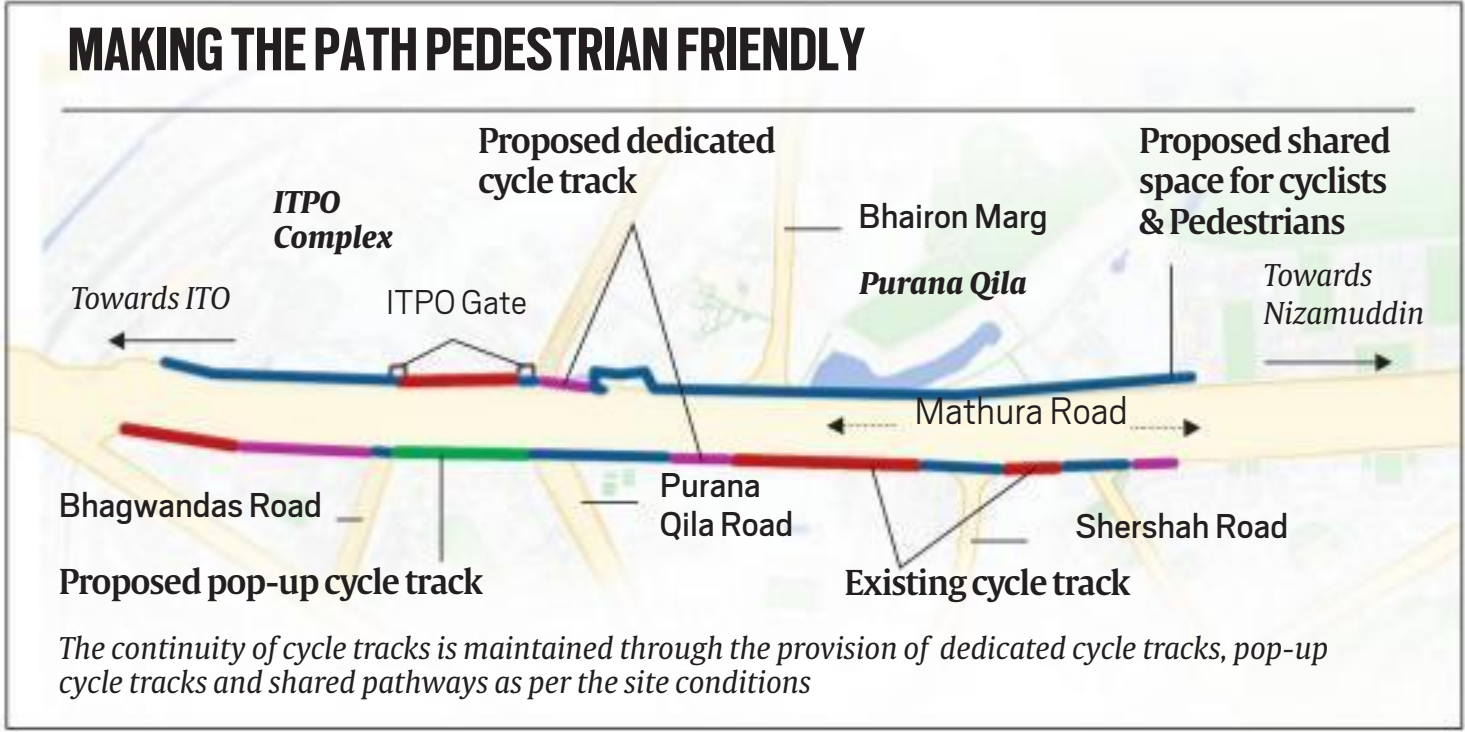
UPASIKA SINGHAL
NEW DELHI, 28 SEPTEMBER

UNINTERRUPTED FOOTPATHS, cycle tracks and table-top crossings — the Mathura Road between ITO and Sundar Nagar will soon be safer for pedestrians in the city.

While it has been smooth sailing for motorists since the 16-kilometre stretch was made signal-free, concerns have been raised about the safety of those on foot.

In the works are continuous footpaths along the stretch, table-top or raised crossings in place of intersections, and a continuous cycle path along the road through dedicated cycle tracks, pop-up cycle tracks, and shared pathways.

Table-top crossings are meant to ensure that cars slow down before approaching the crossing, making it easy for the elderly and differently-abled persons to use the pathway. Pop-up cycle lanes are temporary bike lanes often utilised as a pilot



or trial phase for testing new infrastructure for cyclists. If the trial is successful, these interventions can be implemented permanently. Shared pathways, on the other hand are designed pathways for pedestrians and cyclists.

Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena has granted approval for the walkability plan in the area that houses the Purana Qila, Pragati Maidan and Delhi Zoo.

At meet in Amritsar, L-G highlights initiatives to 'revive' Delhi ambience

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

FROM GROWING bamboo plantations to desilting the Yamuna, Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena showcased several initiatives being undertaken in the capital at the recently-concluded meeting of the Northern Zonal Council (NZC).

Held in Amritsar, Punjab, Saxena made a presentation on the good practices across various sectors at the 31st meeting of the NZC; these, L-G House officials said, ranged from steps taken to alleviate pollution in the Yamuna to interventions at dumping sites for Municipal

Solid Waste among others. Saxena, highlighted the practices conducted across various sectors, ranging from steps taken to alleviate pollution in the Yamuna to interventions at dumping sites for municipal solid waste among others, L-G House officials said.

According to officials, Saxena stated that about 3.15 lakh bamboo trees — 2.9 lakh by the Forest Department and 25,000 by the DDA — had been planted across the city, including at 'Baansera' on the Yamuna Bank.

Addressing the gathering Saxena said that bamboo trees emit 30 percent more oxygen than other plants, consume less water, thereby raising the water table.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

BJP-BACKED NATIONAL Democratic Teacher's Front (NDTF) candidate AK Bhagi was elected as Delhi University Teacher's Association president on Thursday. Bhagi won by a margin of 395 votes. Nearly 85.5% of 9,500 voters participated in the election on Wednesday.

The poll witnessed a straight fight between Bhagi and Aditya Narayan Misra, representing the Democratic United Teacher's Alliance (D.U.T.A.), a collection of teacher's organisations, who have joined forces to take down the NDTF. As many as 4,182 votes were polled against Bhagi and 3,787 votes against Misra.

"The polls were held in the



AK Bhagi (centre) won by a margin of 395 votes. *Express*

middle of a significant number of displacements like serving ad-hoc teachers, corruption and political cronyism influencing many interviews for permanent teaching posts," said elected Academic Council Member, Assistant Professor Maya John, part of the DUTA alliance.

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- डिलीवरी सेवा
- विश्वसनीयता
- गृहिणियों के लिए अतिरिक्त आय के अवसर
- उच्च गुणवत्ता वाले उत्पादों की उपलब्धता आपके नजदीकी स्टोर पर
- वीसी कूलर/डीप फ्रीजर ₹5000 की सुरक्षा राशि जमा करने पर उपलब्ध

पात्रता मानदण्ड :-

पात्रता मानदण्ड :-	ग्रामीण क्षेत्र/छोटा शहरी क्षेत्र/ बड़ा शहरी क्षेत्र
उम्र	18-45 वर्ष
भूतपूर्व वैश्विक के लिए अधिकतम आयु	50 वर्ष
नैर-आपराधिक पृष्ठभूमि	न तो वे कोई दण्डवा मय और न ही लैब्ड किया आपराधिक नज़्मता
कोई वित्तीय झूठ नहीं	सरकारी प्रोजेक्ट में शून्य देवदारी
निवास प्रमाण-पत्र	केवल हरियाणा
वीटा दूध के मौजूदा आवंटित/मालिक	पात्र नहीं है
स्थान की आवश्यकता	5x5 वर्ग फुट

डीप फ्रीजर / चेस्ट कूलर / डिजि कूलर जारी करने की शर्त :-

श्रेणी	डीप फ्रीजर / चेस्ट कूलर / विसी कूलर	Without Date Cheque in favour of "The Ballabgarh Coop. Milk Producers Union Ltd." के पक्ष में पोस्ट डेटेड चेक
महिला/पुरुष आवेदक	बेरोजगार कार्यरत	Rs. 5,000/- Rs. 10,000/-
		Rs. 25,000/- Rs. 25,000/-

अन्य सूचना-

- सभी लिंग वर्ग योजना के लिए आवेदन करने के पात्र है।
- (होटल, रेस्तरां, कैफे) चैनल और घरेलू आदि भी लागू हो सकते है।
- वीटा गृहिणी के पास किसी संभावित स्थान पर या तो स्वामित्व में या किराए पर एक पूर्वीनिर्मित दुकान/स्थान/घर होना चाहिए।
- वीटा गृहिणी से वीडा सेल काउंटर स्थापित करने की पूरी लागत वीडा गृहिणी को स्वयं वहन करनी होगी 'वीटा गृहिणी को किसी रॉयल्टी का भुगतान करने या वीडा के साथ कोई राजस्व साझा करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है।
- कृपया ध्यान दें कि सभी आवर्ती खर्च जैसे बिजली शुल्क, दुकान का किराया, रकम-रखाव और अन्य खर्च 'वीटा गृहिणी द्वारा वहन किए जाएंगे।

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अधिक जानकारी के लिए कृपया निम्नलिखित अधिकारियों से संपर्क करें:-
श्री विमल कुमार, प्रभारी (विपणन), मिल्क प्लांट बल्लबगढ़ (मो:- 9968604703)
श्री. अभिजीत पाराशर, मिल्क प्लांट बल्लबगढ़ (मो:- 7011102911)
अंतिम तिथि :-10 अक्टूबर, 2023

वीटा देसी घी | त्रिविड मिल्क | पनीर | बटर | काजू पिन्नी | खीर | मीठी लस्सी

अधिक जानकारी के लिए QR कोड स्कैन करें

WORLD

HEART DAY

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Empowering India's Heart Health: Tetsuya Yamada on OMRON's 50-Year Journey

ADVERTORIAL



Could you please provide a comprehensive overview of OMRON's remarkable journey in the development of blood pressure monitoring devices? What milestones have characterised this incredible voyage?

OMRON's odyssey in the realm of blood pressure monitoring devices commenced with the unveiling of our inaugural product, back in 1973. As we commemorate our 50th anniversary in this field, it's essential to reflect upon how far we've come. Initially, blood pressure measurement was predominantly confined to hospitals and clinics. However, we had a vision that extended beyond hospital walls - we saw the potential of enabling individuals to monitor their blood pressure in the comfort of their homes.

In the mid-1980s, we embarked on a pivotal journey in Japan. This study (Ohasama) was a significant turning point as it underscored the critical role of home blood pressure measurements in predicting strokes. The results illuminated the path toward a future where individuals could proactively manage their cardiovascular health through regular monitoring.

Over the decades, we've witnessed a remarkable shift in awareness surrounding home blood pressure monitoring. Today, we proudly celebrate the achievement of surpassing 350 million units sold worldwide. This milestone signifies not only our success but also the growing recognition of

creasing adoption of home blood pressure monitors in India, ultimately reaching 20% penetration by 2030?

Our strategy to achieve this ambitious goal involves two primary directions.

Firstly, we are dedicated to enhancing awareness, particularly among healthcare professionals and patients alike. To facilitate this, we have conducted significant clinical studies within India, exemplified by the "Grand Study." The objective of these studies is to recommend inclusion of home blood pressure monitoring in hypertension guidelines. By securing recognition and endorsement from the medical community, we aim to instill confidence in patients regarding the importance of regular blood pressure monitoring at home. In essence, we want doctors to not only recognise but also recommend home blood pressure monitoring to their patients.

Secondly, expanding our coverage across the country is pivotal. While India boasts approximately 600,000 pharmacy retail shops, our current presence extends primarily within metropolitan areas and tier 1 cities. Recognising that accessibility plays a critical role in adoption, we are actively working on expanding our reach in tier 2, 3 cities and beyond in coming years.

This expansion strategy ensures that our products are readily available to a broader population, including those residing in rural and remote regions. It's imperative that individuals across the country have easy access to the tools necessary for proactive cardiovascular health management and achieve 20% penetration of home blood pressure monitoring."

Our message is clear: home blood pressure monitoring is of paramount importance. While doctors play a vital role in healthcare, regular monitoring at home can empower individuals to take charge of their well-being. Recognizing changes in vital signs and understanding the significance of these changes is crucial.

the importance of monitoring one's blood pressure at home.

In India, where the current penetration of home blood pressure monitors stands at a modest 2%, we are on a mission. Our vision for 2030 is ambitious - to elevate awareness and increase adoption to an impressive 20%. This endeavour aligns with India's significant hypertensive population, estimated at a staggering 220 million. And it also syncs perfectly with our vision of "Going for Zero" promoting home blood pressure monitoring as one of the key preventive healthcare practices to significantly reduce hypertension-led diseases such as stroke and heart failure.

Our journey exemplifies our commitment to advancing cardiovascular health and preventive care. We envision a future where every individual, regardless of their location or access to healthcare facilities, can actively participate in safeguarding their heart health through home-based monitoring.

How do you plan to achieve this goal of raising awareness and in-

What's the ratio between online and offline sales of your products, especially in the context of the Indian market?

In India, our current sales distribution from online channels is showing a rise. With the growing digital penetration, online channels are gaining prominence rapidly. As more and more Indian consumers embrace online shopping, we anticipate that the role of online channels will significantly expand in the future. The evolving consumer buying pattern and behaviours will also add to this rise. The buying patterns are changing regardless of the tier of the cities they belong to.

This shift aligns with the government's "Digital India" initiative, which has accelerated digital adoption across the country. It's not just about urban areas; rural India, too, is witnessing increased internet accessibility. As we aim to make our healthcare solutions accessible to a broader Indian population, we are actively adapting to this changing landscape by expanding our online presence and distribution networks. Our goal is to



In an exclusive interview, we sat down with **Tetsuya Yamada**, the Managing Director of OMRON Healthcare India, to delve into the transformative journey of OMRON in the realm of blood pressure monitoring devices. With the world celebrating the 50th anniversary of their first blood pressure monitor, Mr. Yamada sheds light on the company's remarkable evolution.

OMRON's journey began with the launch of the blood pressure monitor in 1973, marking half a century of dedication to improving cardiovascular health. This pioneering journey has had a profound impact on healthcare in India, as OMRON's innovative technologies have emerged as game-changers in preventive care. As we explore OMRON's contributions, Mr. Yamada discusses how these innovations are poised to reshape the landscape of cardiovascular health and preventive care in India.

In India, where cardiovascular diseases are a significant health concern, OMRON has set its sights on a transformative goal: to raise awareness and significantly increase the adoption of home blood pressure monitors. Currently, with only 2% penetration, their mission is to elevate this figure to an ambitious 20% by 2030.

ensure that OMRON products are readily available to consumers across India, whether they prefer the convenience of online shopping or the trust and accessibility of offline retail outlets.

Can you share your insights into the future of home-based health monitoring technology, with a particular focus on cardiovascular health, considering the unique developments and challenges in the Indian context?

Certainly, when discussing the future of home-based health monitoring technology, we must take into account India's distinct healthcare landscape. The potential for growth in this field within India is substantial, and it holds the promise of transforming healthcare delivery, especially concerning cardiovascular health.

India's ambitious "Digital India" initiatives have significantly accelerated the adoption of digital technologies across the nation. This includes the widespread availability of smartphones and increasing internet penetration, even in remote areas. As a result, digital health solutions are becoming more accessible to a broader population.

The key insight into the future lies in preventive care. Home-based health monitoring empowers individuals to take charge of their well-being. Regular monitoring of vital signs, including blood pressure and ECG, provides valuable data that can detect anomalies early. This data can serve as a critical tool for preventive healthcare, helping individuals and their healthcare providers make informed decisions.

At OMRON Healthcare India, we are actively collaborating with innovative com-



panies like Tricog. Tricog, a Bangalore-based startup, is at the forefront of digital health solutions. Its CEO, Dr. Charit Bhograj, himself a cardiac surgeon, recognised the need to extend medical expertise beyond urban centres. This aligns perfectly with our mission to reach the farthest corners of India with our healthcare solutions. Our investment in Tricog and partnership with them hold significant implications for cardiovascular health. Tricog specialises in remote ECG monitoring, and together, we are creating services that can save lives, especially in areas where access to cardiologists and specialised care is limited.

Atrial fibrillation (Afib) is a silent yet severe risk factor for strokes as many of them don't come to know that they have it because of lack of symptoms. Hypertension patient have around 3.8 times higher

regardless of their medical background, to easily and regularly monitor their blood pressure in the comfort of their homes.

Central to our mission is raising awareness about the importance of home-based health monitoring. In a country as diverse as India, where healthcare resources can be unevenly distributed, being proactive about one's health is not a luxury but a necessity. Through our awareness campaigns and collaborations, we aim to educate both healthcare professionals and consumers about the life-saving potential of home blood pressure monitoring.

What we often forget is that heart health is not just about heart attacks; it's about identifying and managing risk factors early on. Many cardiovascular conditions, such as hypertension and atrial fibrillation, can lurk silently, unnoticed until a catastrophic event occurs. Our products

In India, there's significant potential for growth in home-based health monitoring. Monitoring vitals at home can provide valuable insights into one's health, facilitating preventive care. We're collaborating with companies like Tricog, focusing on remote patient monitoring to bridge the gap and save lives."

risk, and Afib patients have 5 times higher risk of stroke. Hence, in India, where hypertension and Afib are prevalent, early detection is crucial.

Our collaboration with Tricog aims to precisely address this issue. Our devices not only monitor blood pressure but also incorporate ECG monitoring. By using ECG data, we can detect AF with high sensitivity and specificity. This means that even asymptomatic individuals can be alerted to potential risks. Early detection allows for timely medical interventions that can save lives.

Looking ahead, community healthcare workers, equipped with digital tools and training, will play a pivotal role in expanding the reach of home-based health monitoring. These workers can provide assistance to individuals in rural and underserved areas, facilitating regular check-ups and data collection. This data can then be remotely accessed by healthcare professionals, enabling timely interventions and reducing the burden on the healthcare system.

What message would you like to convey to healthcare professionals and consumers about the importance of your products in promoting heart health and well-being?

Our message is crystal clear: home blood pressure monitoring is of paramount importance in the pursuit of heart health and overall well-being. While healthcare professionals undoubtedly play a vital role in the medical ecosystem, we firmly believe that individuals themselves must become active participants in safeguarding their health. This belief underpins our commitment to delivering innovative products that empower people to take charge of their well-being.

Our suite of home blood pressure monitoring devices serves as an invaluable tool for individuals and families. These devices are designed with user-friendliness and accuracy at their core. They enable anyone,

are designed to break this cycle of ignorance. By regularly monitoring blood pressure, individuals can detect abnormal trends and patterns, even before they manifest as symptoms.

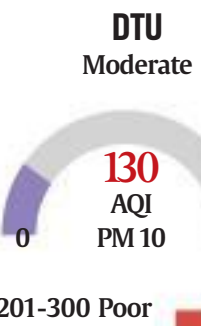
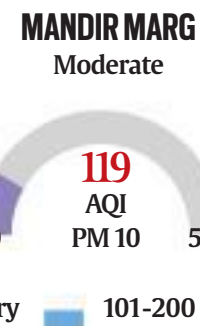
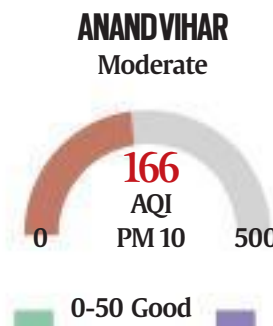
Early detection is synonymous with early intervention. When individuals are armed with data showing irregular blood pressure or signs of atrial fibrillation, they can promptly consult healthcare professionals for further evaluation and guidance. This proactive approach can lead to timely adjustments in medication, lifestyle changes, and other interventions that can significantly reduce the risk of cardiovascular events.

Our message is simple yet profound: your heart health is in your hands. Our products are not mere devices; they are instruments of empowerment. We urge healthcare professionals to champion the cause of home-based health monitoring and encourage their patients to take charge of their well-being. To consumers, we say this: invest in your health. Regularly monitor your blood pressure, detect anomalies early, and partner with your healthcare provider for a healthier heart and a brighter future.

At OMRON Healthcare India, our commitment to heart health and well-being is unwavering. As we celebrate 50 years of pioneering blood pressure monitoring, we look forward to a future where every individual in India is not just a patient but an informed guardian of their own heart health. Together, we can build a heart-safe nation.



Scan to know more about OMRON Complete Device



FORECAST: September 29
Partly cloudy sky.
Mist in the morning.

MAX: 35
0.3°C above normal
MIN: 22
1.3°C below normal

CASES UNDER-REPORTED EARLIER, COVID LOCKDOWN HIT DETECTION

From 6 to 543: What is behind surge in reported measles cases in Capital?

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

AN EXPRESS RTI APPLICATION

ANKITA UPADHYAY
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

UNDER-REPORTING OF cases along with Covid lockdown in the last couple of years is the reason why the Capital is now witnessing a significant spike in the number of measles cases along with fatalities, an RTI query by *The Indian Express* has revealed.

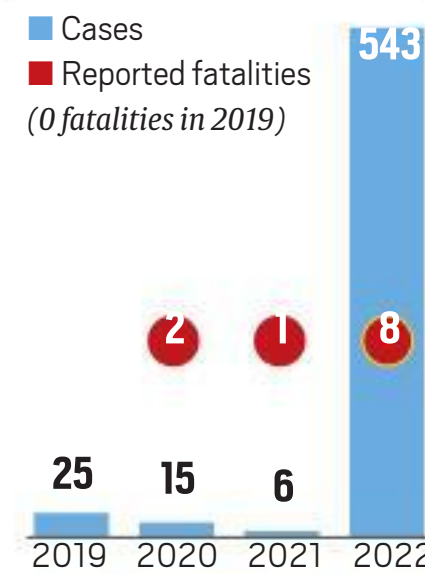
The response provided by the state health department has shown that 2022 witnessed a total of 543 cases, a massive surge in the numbers compared to the last four years when they remained in single and double digits. Along with this, eight deaths were reported due to the viral infection.

In 2019, a total of 25 cases were reported with zero fatality. In 2020, 15 cases were reported with two deaths. In 2021, six cases were reported with one death.

According to an official from the Directorate of Family Welfare, which comes under the state health department, the surveillance

Significant jump in reported cases

8 DEATHS IN 2022



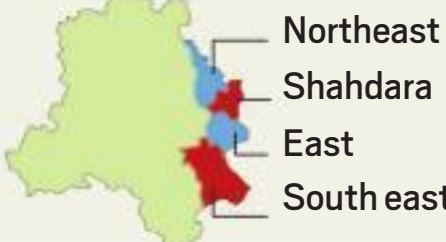
WHAT IS MEASLES?

It is a highly contagious viral infection that causes fever, cough and rashes, and complications such as encephalitis or swelling of



An official said surveillance had weakened as the 'entire machinery was busy in handling Covid pandemic.'

Most cases reported from four Delhi districts



the brain that can lead to death.
Measles is also linked with secondary infections like pneumonia and diarrhoea.

lance for measles was strengthened in 2022 before which, case detection took place only if a patient reported fever, rashes and cough, coryza, and conjunctivitis.

The official said that during Covid lockdown in 2020 and 2021, the infections were rising

internally and the surveillance had weakened as the "entire machinery was busy in handling Covid pandemic." However, in 2022, any patient reporting fever and rashes was being tested for measles which resulted in a high positivity rate, said the official.

Earlier, only when five or

more cases were reported from an area, it was flagged as epidemic-struck and officials would visit the spot.

"Now we are investigating each and every case. Case-based surveillance has strengthened and by December, we have to eliminate measles..." the official

said.

The measles campaign mandated by the central government which runs in schools had halted due to a court case on informed consent from parents. However, with increasing cases in 2022, the health department opted to vaccinate children only through its hospitals and dispensaries to circumvent the issue of informed consent.

According to Dr Jugal Kishore, Director Professor and Head of Community Medicine Department, Safdarjung Hospital, often parents forget or don't want to vaccinate their children because of a lack of awareness. He said that "even the most elite people" sometimes refuse to get the vaccine for their children. "Possibility of the occurrence decreases with the help of vaccines. But, we all know that vaccination is not 100 per cent and many people don't want to take it. Due to this, infections keep occurring and bouts of outbreak take place in congested areas," said Dr Kishore.

He said due to lack of availability, Vitamin A, which is the first dose before the measles vaccine, is not provided resulting in malnourishment. "Vitamin A and measles go hand in hand. Vitamin A is very crucial before the measles vaccine is provided to children," he added.

Turned into 'canal' ahead of G20, Bhairon Marg drain back to its old self



A before (left) and after view of the drain. Saman Husain/Abhinav Saha

SAMAN HUSAIN

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

BARELY A few weeks after it was revamped and given a "canal-like" appearance before the G20 summit, the Bhairon Marg drain near Pragati Maidan's Bharat Mandapam Convention Center has once again gone back to its old state, thanks to lack of regular desilting and sanitation.

Ahead of the G20 Summit, a 240-metre section of the drain, which had overflowed during the floods in Yamuna river this year, had gone through a complete transformation. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) had cleared overgrowth, laid decorative rocks, dotted the sides of the drain with potted plants, and set up a selfie point.

The drain had first been cleaned using machines over

more than four days. After this, sanitation workers were hired to manually clear the drain of any silt residue in order to ensure that water from Yamuna river which is connected to the drain flows through the structure once again.

Less than 20 days after the summit, the drain has stagnated once more because of silt buildup while several potted plants nearby have died as a result of improper care. A security guard stationed nearby claimed, "The plants are only watered once every three days, causing them to be on the verge of dying... Many other plants stand stollen by the residents of the area."

Currently, in addition to the silt accumulation, plastic packaging, bottles, and used rags can be seen thrown down the drain along with stray mosquito nets.

Signs of vegetation can once again be seen around the drain with wild plants growing in between the decorative rocks. Piles of G20 construction and demolition waste have also been dumped around the drain.

Following the facelift, a number of fish could be seen in the drain but now, their numbers have also significantly diminished. Fisherman Shah Alam, who was seen catching fish next to the drain, claimed: "I used to catch fish at the Yamuna earlier, but after the drain was cleared, I started catching the fish that had traveled to the drain. In the last week, the number of fish coming to the drain has decreased."

MCD and the Delhi government did not respond to queries on the issue.

Two crocodiles sneak out of zoo enclosure, brought back by staff

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

WITH A breach in their enclosure, two crocodiles at the Delhi zoo made their way out on Wednesday and had to be brought back. The enclosure houses three crocodiles, two of which wandered out, according to zoo officials.

Delhi zoo director Akanksha Mahajan said, "An agency was working through the Civil Construction Unit (CCU). They were laying down a line for water supply for gardening and other purposes. They dug a trench behind the crocodile enclosure and made a gap in the wall. They did this without informing us. If any

work is being done in an enclosure, permission is usually taken from us. They should have told the zoo officials and asked for permission first." She said that action will be taken against the agency that was involved.

"The gap was enough for the crocodiles to get out... The keeper who was on rounds early in the morning found them missing, saw the tracks and realised they had gone out of the enclosure. They didn't go far and were brought back. One was found in an adjacent area with trees. The second one had gone into a water channel and was brought back from there. The staff was equipped to quickly bring them back. The incident took place early in the morning," Mahajan said.



RAHUL AT FURNITURE MARKET

Congress MP Rahul Gandhi visited the Kirti Nagar furniture market Thursday and interacted with carpenters. "Today I went to Asia's largest furniture market located in Kirti Nagar, Delhi and met the carpenter brothers. Apart from being hard workers, they are also amazing artists - experts at carving durability and beauty," Gandhi said in a post on X. Gandhi had met fruit and vegetable vendors in Azadpur Mandi in August and porters at the Anand Vihar station last week. *PTI*

Mukherjee Nagar fire: MCD orders survey of PGs in all wards of Civil Lines Zone; case of negligence lodged

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

THE MUNICIPAL Corporation of Delhi on Thursday issued directions to conduct a survey of all paying guest accommodations in Mukherjee Nagar, after a massive fire broke out inside a PG on Wednesday night.

The MCD has now issued di-

rections for the Zonal building department to conduct a survey of PGs in all wards of the Civil Lines zone.

Thirty-five girls who were trapped in the building were rescued by fire officials. The MCD said that due to suffocation caused by fire, three girls including a two-year-old who were trapped, were rescued and hospitalised. All three girls are out of

danger now.

Meanwhile, the Delhi Police said they have now registered a case in the matter. They have lodged a case of negligence against the building owner and the PG owner. The building is owned by a man named Kulbhushan, who rented it to another person, Amit Kumar, who ran the PG.

Police said no arrests have

been made yet and the matter is under investigation. FIR has been lodged under IPC sections 336 (act endangering life or personal safety of others), 337 (causes hurt to any person by doing any act so rashly or negligently as to endanger human life or the personal safety of others) and 338 (causing grievous hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others).

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

DAYS AFTER the Capital witnessed its biggest heist at a jewellery shop in Southeast Delhi's Jangpura in which robbers decamped with valuables worth Rs 25 crore, sources revealed that the Delhi Police is close to making its first detention/arrest in the case. A team of Delhi Police is said to be camping in West Bengal looking for their suspect -- an employee at the store.

The unknown accused, at least 4 men, broke into the store on Sunday night and decamped with gold and diamond jewellery. Police said the biggest heist in Delhi was "well planned" and executed within five to six hours. The police is yet to identify the vehicle which the accused used to escape from the crime scene. The men allegedly drilled a hole in the strong room and entered the store. They managed to take at least 3,000 jewellery pieces, the police said.

A Delhi Police source said, "We have sent a team to West Bengal. They are camping there... looking for a man who is called 'Bangali'. This person works at the jewellery store and had taken a one-week leave prior to the heist. As his phone is not reachable, multiple teams have been sent to trace his location. Based on technical surveillance and his Aadhaar card, a team left for the state and is now close to nabbing this person. We don't know if he is still there but are hoping to catch him."



Robbers had decamped with valuables worth Rs 25 crore. Express

Another officer said the employee, who's now a 'prime suspect' in the case was hired a month back at the jewellery store. "He used to repair defective jewellery pieces on the third floor," said the officer.

Meanwhile, the Delhi Police said that more than 12 teams are working round the clock on the case. From CCTV, phone dump data, and manual surveillance, to checking records of old criminals on bail -- the police are pushing all its staff to make an arrest and crack the case.

The theft was carried out after a possible recce of several weeks so the police are now checking if any old/known criminals are involved in the case. Police has recorded statements from all six permanent staff members employed at the 75-year-old jewellery shop. Their addresses, joining details, and shift timings have also been collected.

ENROLS IN PSYCHOLOGY COURSE IN NORTH CAMPUS

52-yr-old trader all set to relive his college days, courtesy unique DU scheme

VIDHEESHA KUNTAMALLA
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

IT WAS in 1999 that businessman Rakesh Kumar Jain last set foot in a college as a student when he finished a diploma course in Export Marketing from the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT). Twenty-four years later, Jain, now 52, is all set to relive his college days, this time as a student of Psychology.

Jain is the oldest student to have recently enrolled himself in Delhi University's Competence Enhancement Scheme (CES).

Launched this year as part of Delhi University's centennial year celebrations, and under the Institute of LifeLong Sciences (ILL), the scheme is aimed at making "higher education more accessible, as envisaged under the New Education Policy 2020".

As per the university's official website: "The Scheme shall provide opportunities to people from all walks of life to enhance their knowledge/competence by registering for any one or two courses offered in a semester in the College and Departments of the University. Such candidates shall get the flavour of studying in the



Scheme aimed at giving candidates "the flavour of studying in the University," according to varsity website. Archive

University along with the regular students of such courses without

having to enroll for a Programme of study."

A businessman dealing in export of home textiles, Jain hails from Uttar Pradesh's Baghpat and has been living in Delhi's Anand Vihar for more than two decades now.

Remembering his college years, Jain said, "I finished Bachelors in Science from Meerut University in 1991. There were not many options back then, so I chose to do BSc and then started working at the very young age of 17."

On his decision to join the CES, he said, "There is no set age for education. One is a student at all phases of life."

Speaking to *The Indian Express*,

Professor Sanjoy Roy, Director of ILL, said, "So far, three students have enrolled in this course. Students can choose the subject of their choice and pick two papers to study, and get a certificate under this scheme at the time of their completion."

On his decision to choose Psychology, Jain said, "I have chosen Psychology so that it can help me deal with people in my work area better than before... I am not here for a certificate or a qualification, I am only here to update my knowledge and am looking at this experience as a value addition to my life."

Jain has been married for 23 years and has two sons, 21 and 17. While one of his sons is pursuing a degree in law and the other is preparing for Medicine, Jain's wife is a homemaker.

"My family has always prioritised education... although my parents studied only till Class 10, they made sure all their children had a good education," he said.

Jain's firm deals with clients from countries like the USA, South Africa, and Germany. He also holds around 8-10 exhibitions of his textile manufacturing business across the world around the year. "This is exactly where I can use

the skills of Psychology, to stay up to date on how to deal with people in my field across the world," he added.

Jain said he would prefer using the Delhi Metro for his commute from his Anand Vihar home to North Campus. "It is just a 30-minute commute," he added.

In his absence, Jain said his team would manage things at work. "It is only a matter of six months," he added.

Besides education, Jain is also looking forward to reliving his college life. "I will go to the class, pull my chair and sit in front of the board and listen to teachers..."



Promoting heart health for everyone, everywhere

World Heart Day serves as a crucial reminder to prioritize heart health and take proactive steps to reduce the risk of heart-related issues by leading a heart-healthy lifestyle.

The human heart, pumping 1.5 gallons of blood in a single minute and beating on an average 100,000 times per day, can be rightly deemed as the engine that powers our lives from the cradle to the grave, driving focus on prioritizing heart health. The emphasis on taking care of heart health cannot be overstressed, especially at a time when Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) - disorders of the heart or blood vessels - have become the leading cause of death globally. With CVDs claiming more than 20.5 million lives every year and affecting over 523 million people, which represents double the number of people who suffered from it two decades ago, the observance of World Heart Day (WHD) on September 29 every year assumes significance of epic proportions.

UNITING GLOBAL EFFORTS TO BRING CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH TO THE FOREFRONT

Since more people die from CVD worldwide than from any other cause, WHD - with its goal to stop the world's biggest killer - has been essaying a defining role in raising public awareness of cardiovascular diseases as well as their impact, to ensure a steady reduction in the global burden of deaths and diseases stemming from cardiovascular issues.

As a global campaign initiated by the Geneva-based non-governmental organization, World Heart Federation (WHF), WHD, since being observed for the first time in the year 2000, has emerged as one of the biggest, most recognized and most effective awareness-raising platforms for CVDs.

Mobilizing global action against cardiovascular diseases, WHD brings together people from diverse backgrounds and from all over the world through par-

ticipation in a wide spectrum of activities that underscore heart health and various measures for averting and controlling CVDs. Scores of World Heart Federation (WHF) member organizations drive the multi-lingual campaign spanning six continents along with the cardiology community and various governmental and non-governmental organizations by educating and uniting people in the global fight against cardiovascular diseases. Educational programs on heart health, public talks, podcasts, fund-raising and sporting events, poster-making competitions, concerts and free health check-ups alongside meetings of international cardiovascular research organizations and medical societies mark WHD's observance every year.

In a day and age where the dark side of modern-day life - sedentary lifestyle, unhealthy diets, and mounting stress levels - is spelling doom for heart health, the steadily growing and rapidly increasing reach of the WHD campaign, from 1.7 billion in 2020 to 7.9 billion in 2021, bodes well for attaining WHF's vision of cardiovascular health for everyone.

KEEPING THE HEART HEALTHY BY MAKING HEALTHY LIFESTYLE CHOICES

Against the backdrop of the hard-hitting reality that 80% of premature deaths resulting from CVD can be prevented and that over 75 % of CVD deaths occur in low and middle-income countries, which includes India, the road map for ensuring heart health entails having unhindered and unbiased access to accurate information, timely detection, care and treatment alongside a proactive approach to heart health involving impactful healthy changes in overall lifestyle.

In light of prevention being better than cure, the importance of having a balanced and healthy diet, maintaining an ideal weight and engaging in age-appropriate regular physical activity cannot be overemphasized for keeping the heart beating, stronger, healthier and for longer. Additionally, managing stress, avoiding smoking and excessive alcohol consumption and keeping in check blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar play a key role in keeping CVD at bay and ascertaining heart health. Evidently, to reduce the risk of CVD significantly, it is imperative to make healthy lifestyle choices a habit.

Pivotal to empowering people's individual choices concerning leading heart-healthy lifestyles is the support of the government and policymakers, wherein they facilitate access to ways that promote and make it easier to live a healthy life. Bringing about health policies that not only create environments where embracing healthy choices is easily available and affordable plays a crucial part in encouraging people to lead and sustain healthier lifestyles.

Year after year, the WHD campaign - engaging individuals, organizations and communities to increase awareness and espouse universal access to the prevention, detection and treatment of CVD - keeps on gaining momentum worldwide and continues to inspire and steer greater international involvement in promoting a lifestyle that is healthy for the heart. As a day dedicated to driving home the message of keeping the heart healthy by taking care of it and leading a lifestyle that fosters heart health while encouraging others to do the same, World Heart Day is empowering people in the global fight against cardiovascular disease and helping them champion heart health.

Controlling Heart Disease - the number one killer in India

IT IS common these days to hear about the sudden death of young adults in their 30s and 40s or even earlier. This is due to a sudden cardiac arrest, in persons who were otherwise 'healthy' and even 'athletic'. It spares no one, including celebrities like the popular singer - KK and TV actors - Sidharth Sukhla and Raju Shrivastav. Also, the former Miss Universe - Sushmita Sen, luckily survived a massive heart attack with about 95% blockage in one of her arteries.

Incidentally, Cardio-Vascular Diseases (CVDs) or heart disease are the leading cause of mortality globally as well as in India, killing nearly 48 lakh people, about 28% of all deaths, in India every year. Compared to the western population, Indians are affected by CVDs a decade sooner and have poorer outcomes. Key risk factors for CVDs include hypertension or high blood pressure, diabetes, poor lipid profile, unhealthy lifestyle practices like smoking, alcohol abuse, obesity and sedentary lifestyle.

Latest reports by WHO and ICMR reveal that 52% CVD deaths in India are caused by hypertension and an estimated 31 crore Indians suffer from hypertension, of which only 37% know of their diagnosis. Further, Diabetics are found to be twice more likely to get heart disease, and India is infamously known as 'the Diabetic capital of the world', having nearly 10 crore diabetics and an additional 13 crore pre-diabetics. Over 21 crore Indians have abnormal lipid profile and over 25 crore are obese.

Like all Non-Communicable (NCDs) or Lifestyle Diseases, heart disease results from an interplay of genetics, lifestyle and environmental factors. However, the European Society of Cardiology and several others have concluded that poor lifestyle



(Honorary) Brigadier Dr Arvind Lal
Padma Shri Awardee,
Executive Chairman, Dr Lal PathLabs Ltd,
Chair, FICCI Swasth Bharat (Public Health) Task Force

is a greater contributor to heart disease than genetics, especially in case of young people. Therefore, adopting a healthy lifestyle should be the first priority for reducing heart disease.

The second most important aspect is 'early diagnosis'. With advancements in modern medicine, especially in diagnostics, doctors can comprehensively assess heart health, identify the risk of heart disease and accurately detect heart attacks. One of the most crucial tests for heart health is a 'Complete Lipid Profile' that includes Total Cholesterol, Triglycerides, HDL Cholesterol, LDL Cholesterol, VLDL Cholesterol, Non-HDL Cholesterol, Apolipoprotein A1 and B, Lipoprotein(a), HsCRP and Homocysteine, which catches lipid and lipoprotein abnor-

malities. The good news is that nowadays a Non-Fasting Lipid Profile is possible wherein one need not fast for twelve hours, which was usually a deterrent for many people to get tested. The Lipid Association of India (LAI) has opined that LDL Cholesterol should now be kept below 70 mg/dL, instead of the earlier level of 100 mg/dL. High Sensitive C-Reactive Protein (HsCRP) is also an important test for assessment of coronary arteries to identify changes due to plaque formation and inflammation.

Further, there are biomarkers that assist doctors in diagnosis, prognosis, and guiding therapy in different cardiovascular diseases. Biomarkers like Troponin can even detect a heart attack that may be missed in an ECG. High Sensitive Troponin I (hsTrop I) is also recommended for accurate cardiovascular risk assessment.

If someone has a family history of heart disease or high Cholesterol, or suffers from hypertension or diabetes, they should start getting tested at the age of 20 years, with a

'Complete Lipid Profile'. If the results are normal, the tests should be repeated every year. If the results are abnormal, seek advice from a physician cardiologist and repeat the tests every three months to monitor progress. For people with no family history of heart disease or no pre-existing medical conditions, a Complete Lipid Profile is recommended every year, starting at the age of 30 years.

I appeal to the Government of India to include Total Cholesterol in addition to glucose, as a screening test under the National Programme for control of NCDs. I must emphasise here that our country's GDP can increase by about 2% if we are able to arrest the advent of NCDs, which account for nearly 65% of deaths in India.

Advancements in Cardiac Surgery: A Conversation with Dr. Sushant Srivastava

Can you share your journey and experience in the field of cardiac surgery, and what inspired you to specialise in this area?

Two individuals played pivotal roles in shaping my journey in cardiac surgery. Firstly, my mother kindled my early aspirations by reading stories about the renowned cardiac surgeon, Doctor Denton Arthur Cooley, to me when I was just six or seven years old. These stories instilled dreams and inspired me to envision a future where I, too, could perform heart operations like him.

Secondly, during my tenure at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) New Delhi, I had the privilege of being guided by Doctor P Venu Gopal, the pioneer of cardiac surgery in India. He achieved a significant milestone by conducting the first successful heart transplant in India on August 4th, 1994, a day I was fortunate to be a part of. Doctor Venu Gopal's vision and leadership propelled cardiac surgery from its rudimentary beginnings to the advanced state it has reached today. AIIMS played a crucial role in this transformative journey.

In essence, these two individuals - my mother and Doctor Venu Gopal - stand as the most influential figures in my pursuit of a career in cardiac surgery.

My journey started in 1992 at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), where I began as a resident trainee. At AIIMS, I was exposed to the highest calibre of cardiac surgery in India. During my time there, I had the privilege of witnessing groundbreaking achievements in the field, including the first successful heart transplant and the implantation of the first mechanical heart in the country. In 1994, after completing my residency, I joined the faculty at AIIMS as an assistant professor. This period allowed me to operate on thousands of patients and learn from pioneering

seniors and teachers who were at the forefront of cardiac surgery. The experience at AIIMS transformed my thinking and provided the essential exposure needed to excel as a cardiac surgeon.

Upon entering private practice, I encountered numerous rewarding experiences. One notable case involved performing bypass surgery on a 96-year-old gentleman in 2014, who miraculously survived. Remarkably, he lived until the age of 99 before succumbing to stomach cancer. Additionally, I had the privilege of conducting the first sutureless, or stitchless, valve surgery in India. Throughout my career, I have undertaken complex surgeries, and met with successful outcomes. It has been an incredibly fulfilling journey, and my passion for cardiac surgery continues to drive me forward.

What are some of the most common cardiac conditions or procedures you can't encounter in your practice, and how have treatments evolved over the years?

Coronary artery bypass surgery, commonly known as bypass surgery, holds the distinction of being the most frequently performed cardiac operation worldwide. This prevalence is attributed to the high incidence of coronary artery disease, particularly in India, which has earned India the unfortunate title of "the world capital of coronary artery disease."

Shockingly, approximately one out of every ten adults in India suffers from this condition.

The management of coronary artery disease varies, with some patients undergoing medical treatment, while others opt for angioplasty. However, as the disease progresses, many individuals eventually reach a stage where bypass surgery becomes the only viable option. This scenario is not unique to India but resonates globally, making bypass surgery a ubiquitous procedure.



Dr. Sushant Srivastava,
Chairperson of Cardiac Surgery and Heart, Lung Transplant at Artemis Hospital, is a distinguished figure in the field of cardiac surgery. With an illustrious career marked by expertise and innovation, Dr. Srivastava has consistently pushed the boundaries of cardiac surgery. His journey is a testament to unwavering dedication and commitment to advancing heart surgery.

In this exclusive interview, Dr. Srivastava shares insights into the evolving landscape of cardiac surgery, the importance of heart health, and the strides made in ensuring patient safety.

Join us as we delve into the world of cutting-edge cardiac care with a visionary leader.

In developing countries like India, cardiac surgeons are also confronted with heart valve diseases, often stemming from conditions like rheumatic fever, particularly affecting young patients. Additionally, congenital heart defects in children necessitate surgical interventions. Surgeons may also address issues related to major vessels, such as the aorta, which can develop conditions like aneurysms or dissections. Furthermore, patients with heart muscle diseases may require procedures like heart transplants or mechanical assist devices like LVADs to support failing hearts.

The field of cardiac surgery has witnessed remarkable advancements over time. For instance, the introduction of beating heart surgery has reduced the reliance on the heart-lung machine in specific procedures, facilitating faster recovery for patients. Despite the increasing complexity of cases due to patients presenting with multiple comorbidities, continuous improvements in techniques and technology empower surgeons to effectively manage these challenges.

And what about the safety of these surgeries? Many people are concerned about the risks associated with them. What steps do you take to ensure the safety and well-being of your patients before, during, and after surgery?

Ensuring the safety of cardiac surgery is of utmost importance, and I want to emphasise that the success rates are excellent. For routine bypass surgery, the mortality rate is typically below 2%, meaning a success rate of approximately 98-99%. It's crucial to recognise that while all surgeries carry some risks, including cardiac procedures, these risks are generally outweighed by the benefits of treating heart disease. However, it's worth noting that the presence of other health conditions can increase these risks, such as uncontrolled diabetes, high blood pressure, kidney disease, or a history of smoking. Nevertheless, even in patients with multiple health issues, the risks can be managed, and most individuals recover well and lead healthy lives. Age alone is not a significant risk factor, and cardiac surgery is routinely performed on patients in their 70s and 80s as long as their overall health is good.

What role does lifestyle play in heart health, and how can individuals make positive changes to reduce the risk of cardiac problems?



Lifestyle is pivotal in maintaining heart health. Positive changes can significantly diminish the risks of cardiac issues.

- Here's how:
- **Diet:** Prioritise a heart-healthy diet. Avoid fast food, fried items, and excess unhealthy fats. Embrace fruits, veggies, whole grains, and low-fat dairy.
 - **Exercise:** Regular physical activity is crucial. Aim for 150 minutes of moderate-intensity exercise or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity exercise weekly.
 - **Smoking:** Quit smoking immediately if you do. It's a major heart disease risk.
 - **Alcohol:** Limit alcohol intake. Excessive drinking can harm the heart.
 - **Weight Management:** Maintain a healthy weight through balanced eating and exercise. Obesity is a heart disease risk.
 - **Stress Management:** Manage stress with techniques like meditation or yoga. Chronic stress negatively affects heart health.
 - **Regular Check-ups:** See your healthcare provider for check-ups and screenings. Early detection of high blood pressure and high cholesterol is vital.
 - **Medication Adherence:** If prescribed medications for conditions like high blood pressure or high cholesterol, take them as directed.
 - **Sleep:** Ensure adequate, quality sleep. Poor sleep can contribute to heart problems.
- These changes reduce cardiac risks and enhance overall well-being. Prevention and early intervention are keys to heart health.

Thank you, doctor, for sharing that valuable information. Now, is there anything else you'd like to add or any final advice you have for our readers regarding heart health or cardiac surgery?

Promote heart health through lifestyle changes: diet, exercise, stress management. Consult healthcare professionals for concerns/family history. Trust cardiac surgery when needed; benefits outweigh risks.





WORLD HEART DAY



Living The Best Life! Devices In The Heart Failure



Dr Manish Kumar Sharma
Consultant Cardiologist with experience of 12 years. Consultant Cardiologist, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi

HEART failure is a chronic (lifelong) condition that must be treated. It is a serious condition which may limit physical activities of the person and also may be responsible for reduced survival. However, with proper treatment, a person can feel better, may have reduced risk of going into or being readmitted to the hospital. A person can also live longer by taking care of the self.

Thanks to recent advances in medical treatment, the symptoms of heart failure can be relieved and the progress of heart failure

can be slowed, stopped, and in some cases even reversed. Still, the progress of heart failure is different for each person, so it can be hard to predict what the future holds.

Sometimes more help is needed to address some of the symptoms of heart failure. This is especially true when problems with the ways the heart beats (also known as irregular heartbeats, or arrhythmias) are an issue. In many such cases, an implanted surgical device may be the answer.

Most common are:
Implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD):

An ICD is like a pacemaker but is implanted just under the skin of the chest. It has wires that connect through veins into the heart. ICDs can speed up the heart rate if it's beating too slow, and can correct dangerous heart rhythms by shocking the heart back to normal. ICDs are sometimes used along with pacemaker function to keep the heart beating as normally as possible.

Cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT):

This small device is implanted just below the collarbone. It helps the heart pump better by sending electrical signals to the heart's lower chambers, so they beat together the way they're supposed to.

Heart Failure Clinics



Dr Sumeet Sethi
DM (Cardiology) Associate Director International Cardiology In Max Super Speciality Hospital, Delhi

The heart failure clinic cares for people whose heart is not pumping blood around their body as effectively as it should be. The causes can be many like post viral infection, heart arteries blockages and disease of the heart valves etc.

How does a person get referred to a heart failure clinic?

If your GP suspects, you might have heart failure they will often do some blood tests to look for signs of weakness or strain on the heart. Following this, they will then refer you to the heart failure clinic manned by a Cardiologist.

What happens at the heart failure clinic?

A thorough clinical examination is done and you will be sent for an ECG, blood tests and an echocardiogram. If required more tests may be needed.

What tests will I have at my appointment?

It is likely that you will require a number of other different tests which may include:

- CT scan

- MRI scan
- Coronary angiogram
- Holter monitoring

Treatment modalities

Based on test reports, a treatment plan is finalised and medical treatment started with advice for regular OPD followups.

What care will I receive at home?

Patients with heart failure often require treatment with a number of different medications. This will be supervised by specialist community teams with guidance from the hospital consultants.

If your condition is stable, you will be cared for by your GP. However, you will continue to have access to hospital and community teams if needed.

Cardiac rehabilitation

If you have heart failure, you will benefit from supervised exercise regimes and may require healthy lifestyle changes. Therefore, we might refer you to the cardiac rehabilitation teams for support.

Additional treatment

You might need more advanced cardiology treatments such as:

- A pacemaker or implantable defibrillator
- Angioplasty
- Ablation procedures for rhythm disturbances
- Surgery for heart valve problems.

Your cardiologist will advise if they think any of these procedures are necessary or appropriate.

What happens if I become unwell?

If you become unwell with heart failure and need admission to hospital you will usually be managed by the heart failure specialist team till fit enough for discharge.

Long term prognosis

With advanced treatment it is now possible to manage heart failure effectively with long term beneficial results and good quality of life.

Heart Diseases. Myths and Facts



Dr Rajeev Kumar Rajput
Senior Consultant Cardiologist & Interventionist Coordinator Heart Failure Service, Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, Delhi

Myth 1. Heart Diseases do not occur in young persons

Fact 1. In our country more than one third of patients with heart attacks are less than 45 years of age and Heart attacks occur a decade earlier than the western population.

Myth 2 Heart disease is common only in big cities and in affluent people.

Fact 2 Heart diseases are equally common in rural/urban and rich and poor

Myth 3 Heart diseases can not be prevented

Fact 3. By healthy life style and by controlling risk factors most of the heart

attacks can be prevented

Myth 4. Fat rich diet is not harmful

Fact 4 High cholesterol is a strong risk factor for Heart attacks and the risk can be reduced by life style management and by drugs. Statins are very safe and very beneficial and prevent heart attacks.

Myth 5 Angiography is very painful and risky

Fact 5 Angiography is a very safe test, painless, usually done through hand and most of the patients can be sent home same day.

Myth 6 Stents are temporary solution and always fail.

Fact 6 Currently available Drug Eluting Stents are very good and in more than 95% cases stents provide long term relief.

Myth 7. Bypass is end of life; you can not do anything after bypass

Fact 7 The technique and the results of bypass surgery have improved a lot and all patient can go back to their routine work within few weeks and lead a healthy and productive life.

Myth 8. If you start high BP medication your body will get used to it and u will have to take it life long

Fact 8. High BP is very important risk factor for brain stroke, heart failure, heart attack and kidney failure. You will tolerate BP medication only as long as they are needed.

Physical Activity In Heart Failure



Dr Y K Arora
MD, MD Sr. Consultant Cardiology in NHI Hospital, Delhi

exercise then talk to your health care

One of most important ways that people with heart failure can maintain their sense of well-being is by keeping themselves active. Activity can help you feel better, may decrease your symptoms, and may improve your heart's function. Be sure to talk to your doctor before starting an exercise program.

BECOMING MORE ACTIVE

To become more active always start with light exercise then slowly and gradually build it up. Pick a simple aerobic activity like walking, swimming or cycling. Walking is a good choice for many people because it is easy to start, does not require any special equipment, and can be done round the year anywhere.

If you are going to start more vigorous

provider, they would like to do some exercise test to see your effort tolerance before permitting you for such a programme.

The goal of most of the people with heart failure is to do 30 minutes of activity every day (At least 5 days in a week). This does not mean that one has to exercise continuously for 30 minutes in one go, in case you are uncomfortable then you can do in 3 blocks of 10-minute each to get your goal of 30-minute.

WHEN NOT TO DO EXERCISE

- Having shortness of breath at rest or more symptoms than usual.
- Feeling exhausted.
- Having fever or some other evidence of infection.
- Having chest pain.

■ Going through a major change in your medication regimen.

■ Having persistent muscle aches & pains after exercising.

Avoid over exertion

Signs of overexertion include:

- Shortness of breath that prevents you from completing a sentence.
- Shortness of breath that does not get better when you reduce or stop your activity.
- Dizziness or light-headedness.
- Chest pain or tightness. Pain in your arms, shoulders, neck, or jaw.
- Unusual fatigue or presence of palpitations.
- Presence of Nausea, vomiting & profuse sweating.

Be Active - Love Your Heart!



Dr Gaurav Minocha
Director And Unit Head Of Cardiology, Max Superspecialty Hospital, Vaishali

lated risks, it's imperative to emphasize that these risks are minimal, especially for

those who maintain a consistent exercise routine. Understanding the warning signs, including chest discomfort, unusual shortness of breath, dizziness, or irregular heartbeats during exercise, is crucial. Consultation with a physician before embarking on a new exercise regimen is advisable for individuals with a history of heart disease or multiple risk factors like diabetes high BP, high cholesterol and smokers. For newcomers to exercise, starting slowly with moderate activities like brisk walking is a prudent approach. Undue physical exercise can cause musculoskeletal injuries and even precipitate heart events So go slow and stop early in case of symptoms like chest discomfort or undue breathing problems

Incorporating exercise into daily life is more achievable than one might think.

Strive for a minimum of 30 minutes of moderate exercise daily, be it through brisk walking or a home workout routine. If time constraints are a concern, break your exercise into shorter, 10-minute sessions scattered throughout the day. Small changes such as opting for stairs over elevators and walking short distances instead of driving can contribute significantly to your overall physical activity.

Remember that the key to reaping the rewards of regular exercise lies in taking the first step. By making physical activity an integral part of your daily routine and adhering to necessary precautions, you possess the power to significantly reduce your risk of heart disease. Prioritize your cardiac health today through regular exercise, and rest assured, your heart will thank you with a longer, healthier life in the years to come.

Diet In Heart Failure



Dr Devendra Kumar Agrawal
Senior Consultant Interventional Cardiologist, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Shalimar Bagh

MAKING positive lifestyle changes is almost always necessary for people with heart failure. Eating a healthy diet is a vital part of the treatment plan. Health care provider will work with the person with heart failure to explain what is required to adopt a healthier diet.

Following tips are often recommended:

Eat less salt (sodium)

Sodium retains water in the body. That can cause the heart to work harder and contribute to edema and shortness of breath. Sodium intake is often limited to 2,000 mg per day. Clinician will recommend to limit sodium intake. It's important to stick with that number. Be on lookout for "hidden" salt in processed and prepared foods, which often have salt added to them. Reading food labels can help. When eating out, ask for nutritional information of the dishes be-

serving at 4 to 6 ounces-about the size of the fist.

Eat oily fish (salmon, trout, herring) at least twice a week.

These types of fish contain omega-3 fatty acids, which can help reduce the risk of coronary artery disease.

Avoid processed and prepared foods.

These can be high in sodium and tend to have saturated or trans fats in them.

When dining out, request little or no salt be added to the dish.

Choose baked or steamed dishes, when possible, over fried options.

Increase Physical Activity And Reducing Stress In Heart Failure



Dr Nityanand Tripathi
Director And HOD - Cardiology And Electrophysiology, Fortis Hospital, Shalimar Bagh

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Exercise is critical for people with heart failure. However, talk with the clinician about how often and when to exercise. Physician may recommend to avoid physical activity on days when fluid has built up and a person is not feeling well. Clinician can help to make a plan for when and how often person should exercise. Pay attention to how you feel, and rest when you get tired.

Most people should aim to get at least 30 minutes of physical activity per day, most days of the week. Try to exercise every day. Keep in mind that person don't have to get all 30 minutes at once. It is

good to break exercise into 5- to 10-minute segments. Plus, there are other ways to add physical activity.

Consider:

- Going out for a walk. Invite friends and family members to join.
- Walking instead of driving.
- Parking car farther from destination and taking a walk.
- Getting off the bus or subway a stop or two earlier and walking rest of the way.

REDUCING STRESS

Dealing with too much stress can make many health conditions worse, including heart failure. But you can keep stress at bay by exercising and taking time to relax.

Consider:

- Enjoying your favourite hobbies
- Spending time with friends or family
- Doing deep-breathing exercises
- Practicing yoga or tai chi
- Taking a nap
- Reading a book
- Listening to music
- Taking a warm bath

There are many ways to relax-those listed above are just a few ideas.

GETTING SUPPORT

As heart failure progresses, it can become isolating for the person who has it. But it doesn't have to be. Doing everything you can to manage your health is important. Talk with healthcare provider about support options available to you.

Roles Of The Caregiver Of Individuals With Heart Failure

ROLE CATEGORIES
Support with activities of daily living

- Personal Care - Assist with bathing, dressing, toileting, movements
- Managing the home - Ensure rent/mortgage and utilities are paid; cleaning, laundry
- Logistical support - Transportation and planning of errands and activities

Psychosocial support

- Emotional and mental support - Provide support through touching, listening, attention, humor, pragmatism, stoicism; assist with referral to mental health services.
- Social and spiritual support - Respect and support of spiritual needs; empathy
- Coping with symptoms and medication side effects - Support to cope with fatigue, exercise intolerance, breathlessness, anxiety, depression, anorexia.



Dr Naveen Bhamri
Senior Director And HOD, Cardiac Sciences, Cardiology, Cardiac Electrophysiology-Pacemaker, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Shalimar Bagh

Improving and maintaining self-care

- Healthy nutrition - Assist with planning, shopping, preparation, and cooking of

heart-healthy meals; encourage adequate energy intake; monitor unexpected decline in body weight

■ Physical activity - Encourage disease-stage-appropriate activities, including walking, balance and strengthening exercises

■ Smoking cessation and tailored alcohol intake - Support and encourage smoking cessation and tailor alcohol advice to pathogenesis of heart failure; eg, abstinence in alcoholic cardiomyopathy

■ Management of medications - Obtain prescription medications from the pharmacy; prepare weekly tablet organizers; reminder of and management of refills

■ Left ventricular assist device management - Left ventricular assist device end-line dressing changes; ensure adequate power source; troubleshoot alarms

■ Monitor and treat heart failure symptoms - Weigh daily to monitor fluid retention; monitor for shortness of breath and fa-

tigue; adjust diuretic dose; assist with decisions about the need for emergency care

Navigating the healthcare system

■ Communication - Communicate with healthcare providers about treatment plan; advocate for patient

■ Health insurance and social services benefit management - Pay health insurance claims; apply for disability benefits

■ Coordination of appointments and visits - Manage schedule related to routine visits for heart failure and comorbidities; accompany to healthcare visits

■ Transition of care between healthcare institution and home - Organize care after hospital discharge; provide assurance of continuity of care

■ End-of-life care - Advocate for patient; communicate patient preferences; provide decision support for palliative and/or hospice care.

Living the best life! Devices in the heart failure

Heat failure is a chronic (lifelong) condition that must be treated. It is a serious condition which may limit physical activities of the person and also may be responsible for reduced survival. However, with proper treatment, a person can feel better, may have reduced risk of going into or being readmitted to the hospital. A person can also live longer by taking care of the self.

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Dr Santosh Kumar Agarwal
Sr Interventional Cardiologist Kailash Hospital, Noida

the progress of heart failure is different for each person, so it can be hard to predict what the future holds.

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Cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT):

This small device is implanted just below the collarbone. It helps the heart pump better by sending electrical signals to the heart's lower chambers, so they beat together the way they're supposed to.

Warning Signs Of Heart Failure



Dr Subroto Kumar Datta
MD, DNB (Medicine) DM, DNB (Cardiology) Director Cardiology, Venkateshwar Hospital, Dwarka, New Delhi

What is heart failure?

Heart failure is different from a heart attack. Heart failure is a malfunction in the heart that prevents the heart muscle from filling or pumping blood well enough to keep the body working properly. It is different from heart attack, which happens when blood flow is blocked in one of the vessels that supply to the heart itself.

While some signs and symptoms of heart failure may not be an emergency, they can worsen if you do not take action immediately. If you have any of the following symptoms, call your doctor or healthcare provider and let them know:

- Shortness of breath
- Feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- Weight gain of three or more pounds in one day
- Weight gain of five pounds in one week
- Unusual swelling in the legs, feet, hands, or abdomen
- A persistent cough or chest congestion (the cough may be dry or hacking)
- Increasing fatigue or a sudden decrease in your ability to do normal activities
- A loss of appetite or nausea
- A feeling of fullness or bloating in your stomach
- Confusion or restlessness

These symptoms may be early signs that fluid is building up and your heart failure is getting worse. If you have these symptoms, let your doctor or nurse know as quickly as possible.

Take immediate action if following situation arises

- Chest discomfort or pain that lasts more than 15 minutes (that is not relieved with rest or nitroglycerin)
- Severe or persistent shortness of breath
- Fainting or passing out
- A fast or irregular heartbeat, palpitations or a racing heart that does not go away
- A need to sleep sitting up on more pillows than usual
- Frothy or pink tinged sputum when coughing

Common symptoms of heart failure:

- Shortness of breath during daily activities
- Having trouble breathing when lying down
- Weight gain with swelling in the feet, legs, ankles, or stomach
- Generally feeling tired or weak

As the heart's pumping action weakens, blood backs up into blood vessels around the lungs and causes seepage of fluid into the lungs. The fluid causes congestion and makes it hard to breathe. Many people with heart failure also have swollen legs and

Understand Heart Failure: What Does It Means To Be At Risk

Many people mistakenly believe that heart failure means that the heart has stopped functioning. Heart failure simply means that the heart is not pumping enough blood to various organs/parts of the body.

Common symptoms of heart failure:

- Shortness of breath during daily activities
- Having trouble breathing when lying down
- Weight gain with swelling in the feet, legs, ankles, or stomach
- Generally feeling tired or weak/bloating
- As the heart's pumping action weakens, blood backs up into blood vessels around the lungs and causes seepage of fluid into the lungs. The fluid causes lung congestion and makes it hard to breathe, particularly when a patient lies down. Many people with heart failure also have swollen legs and feet.

Medical conditions which increases risk of heart failure:

- Coronary artery disease and heart attacks
- Diabetes
- High blood pressure
- Obesity
- Valvular Heart Disease
- Chronic Kidney Disease

Unhealthy behaviors can also increase risk of heart failure:

- Using tobacco in any form
- Eating foods high in fat, cholesterol, and sodium
- Not getting enough physical activity
- Excessive alcohol intake

In most cases, heart failure can't be cured, but its symptoms can be brought under control with careful management.



Dr Hemant Gandhi
MBBS, MD (Medicine), DM (Cardiology) FESC (Europe), Associate Director - Cardiology, Max Healthcare Hospital, Gurgaon

Careful management means a person with heart failure should:

- Take all of the medicines as ordered by the doctor.
- Control BP & Blood sugar levels.
- Stop using tobacco/limit alcohol
- Remain physically active, but avoid strenuous exertion.
- Lose weight if obese.
- Limit salt in diet (No Added Salt)
- Eating balanced diet
- Should also check every day for signs of worsening heart failure like sudden increase in body weight or sudden swelling in the body.

Heart failure is a serious illness that can affect how long a person can survive. Some people may die sooner because of heart failure; but with proper medications in the right doses and careful management, a person with heart failure can feel better and live longer.

Moreover, with recent advances in the treatment of patient with heart failure, like newer drugs, device therapy & heart transplant, life expectancy of heart failure patients has increased.

Adjusting Fluids In Heart Failure



Dr Nishant Tyagi
Senior Consultant Cardiologist, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Patparganj, Delhi.

Congestion, or fluid overload, is a classic clinical feature of patients presenting with heart failure and its presence is associated with adverse outcome. Therefore, controlling the intake of fluid is important in heart failure.

Why is it important to control fluids?

Water and salt retention leads to an increased amount of fluid

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HEART DAY

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Know Your Heart To Save Your Heart



Dr S S Bansal, Senior Heart Specialist, Cmd SSB Heart & Multispecialty Hospital Faridabad

On 29th September, we celebrate World Heart Day each year since 2000. It is a part of an international campaign to spread awareness about Heart disease. In 2012 leaders all over the World decided to decrease the disease by 25% by 2025 because 1.7 core people die of heart attack every year in the world out of which maximum deaths take place in India. This is happening all over the world despite the availability of advance diagnostic and treatment modality in most parts of the world. This can be easily prevented by early detection and timely treatment of heart disease. People need to be educated about the importance of regular health checkups because of the silent nature of the disease and its risk factors.

Sudden and Silent nature of Heart attacks and delay in diagnosis are the main reasons of death and sufferings. Out of

around lacs of deaths in India every year due to heart attack, 16 % die within 1 hour of heart attack even before victim of heart attack or his family members realize that he or she is having a heart attack. This happens sometimes even during sleep before the diagnosis of heart attack is made. Sudden death may be the first thing to happen without any symptoms. Cholesterol block builds up over years in human hearts silently till the block reaches 70% or more. In around 30 to 40% persons with heart disease especially in those with diabetics, critical blocks of more than 90% also may not cause any symptoms or discomfort. However heart attack can occur even with a 50% block which may get ruptured due to vigorous physical activity or sudden increase in exercise. That is why early detection by most reliable test is the key to prevent death from this silent killer. The

most reliable test for early detection is CT CORONARY CALCIUM SCORING AND CT CORONARY ANGIOGRAPHY. Therefore we at SSB hospital have included CT calcium scoring in most of our preventive health checkup packages.

Incidents of heart attack have increased in all age groups.

At SSB Heart and Multispecialty, our youngest heart attack patient was a school going boy of just 19 year old and oldest patient was 107 year old. Both were saved by timely emergency angioplasty and stenting. Though more common in men but women are also not spared. It can happen at any age in women also. The best way to prevent sudden death from this silent killer is to identify the cholesterol deposition in heart arteries at early stage by doing heart screening on special CT scan machines

for coronary artery calcium scoring and coronary CT angiography which is a very safe and noninvasive OPD test. It should be done in all appropriate candidates. It can detect even mild to moderate heart disease which no other test including TMT, stress Echo or thallium or PET -CT can pick up. On CT Coronary angiography if mild to moderate disease is detected, statin group of medicine is required to control the progression of disease and aspirin tablet is additionally required for moderate to significant disease is present on CT angio. Radial angiography should be done in patients with moderate, significant or critical disease detected on CT angiography to assess and treat the significant or critical block by timely angioplasty and stenting along with required medicines. This is the surest way to prevent death from this silent killer. Screening of all individuals for the presence of major

risk factors like high blood pressure, diabetes mellitus and high cholesterol levels should start at the age of 20 years. Those who have family history of heart disease and high cholesterol level, lipid profile should be checked at the age of 13 years. All should be encouraged to quit smoking and adopt healthy life style which includes eating healthy food like fruit, vegetables, almonds, pulses, brown bread and rice. Avoid full cream dairy products, fried items, sweets, fast food, hydrogenated fats, excess salt and red meat. Consume right amount of calories and protein to maintain ideal body weight. Regular exercise for at least 30 minutes is essential for heart. Brisk walking, Cycling, swimming, yoga or playing a game of badminton or tennis etc. depending upon your suitability and strength are all useful to maintain a healthy heart.

Life-Saving Expertise

Dr. Rakesh Sapra's Trailblazing Career in Cardiology at Marengo Asia Hospitals

In this illuminating conversation, we engage with the esteemed Dr. Rakesh Sapra, a distinguished figure in the field of cardiology. With over two decades of experience and a distinguished career at Marengo Asia Hospitals, Faridabad, Dr. Rakesh Sapra is at the forefront of cardiac care in the region. His extensive expertise spans various cardiac interventions, including coronary angioplasties, balloon valvotomy, peripheral angioplasties, and congenital interventions. Additionally, he is well-versed in electrophysiology and radiofrequency ablations.

Join us as Dr. Rakesh Sapra shares his profound insights into the evolving landscape of cardiac care and the critical role he plays in improving patients' lives.

Dr. Sapra, let's delve right into the interview. Can you elucidate the key factors contributing to the surge in heart attacks among younger generations? How do these risk factors differ from those traditionally associated with older, sicker individuals?

Indeed, there are several facets to this question. Firstly, it's crucial to acknowledge that our population is genetically predisposed to heart disease. Research has shown that diseases like this manifest in the Indian population, and more broadly, in the South Asian population, approximately a decade earlier than in Western populations. This genetic predisposition implies that our popu-

lation tends to develop heart disease at a younger age compared to their Western counterparts.

The reasons behind this predisposition are twofold. Firstly, there's a genetic tendency among Indians and South Asians, reflected in our cholesterol profiles. Cholesterol profiles encompass LDL (low-density lipoprotein) cholesterol, often referred to as "bad" cholesterol, HDL (high-density lipoprotein) cholesterol, considered "good" cholesterol, and triglycerides, which are less directly associated with heart disease. It's been scientifically established that elevated LDL cholesterol is linked to heart disease and cholesterol deposits in blood vessels.

Surprisingly, Indian populations with heart disease don't typically have high LDL cholesterol levels, but they lack sufficient HDL cholesterol, the protective kind. Thus, our genetic makeup, particularly our lipid profile, predisposes us to heart disease more than Western populations. Moreover, our lifestyle choices exacerbate this genetic predisposition. Unhealthy dietary habits are rampant; we often consume unhealthy foods like pizzas, burgers, and fried dishes like chole bhature with pride. We showcase these as markers of affluence, prioritising them over healthier options like salads and fruits. This choice of unhealthy foods and a lack of regular physical activity worsens our predisposition to heart disease.

We engage in unhealthy behaviours like public smoking, which we often glamorise



Dr Rakesh Rai Sapra
Director and Head
Department of Cardiology
Marengo Asia Hospital, Faridabad

on social media, reinforcing these habits. All these detrimental practices collectively worsen our risk of heart disease.

Dr. Sapra, could you elaborate on the steps individuals can take to mitigate these risks?

To address these risks, the most effective change must come through education. People need to understand the advantages of healthy eating and living. This understanding should start from childhood. Trying to alter the habits of individuals who are already in their 30s or 40s is challenging because cholesterol deposition in arteries begins as early as the first decade of life. If we don't educate children about the importance of healthy lifestyles during their formative years, we risk missing a critical window.

Healthy eating, regular physical activity, and stress management should be instilled from a young age. Physical activity, in particular, has diminished significantly in our daily routines. We must reintegrate it into our lives. Education is the key to fostering these changes.

Are there any recent medical advancements or treatment approaches tailored to addressing heart attacks in younger patients? How can healthcare systems better educate and prepare this changing demographic of heart attack sufferers?

Treatment methods for heart attacks re-

main largely consistent across age groups. However, disease presentation can differ. In younger patients, cholesterol deposits are typically softer and more prone to clot formation. In contrast, elderly patients may have harder, calcified blockages. This variation influences the techniques we use for treatment. For younger patients, we focus more on addressing clots, while in elderly patients, we may need special tools to break calcified deposits.

Regarding healthcare systems, a shift in education is vital. We need to prepare the younger population to make healthier choices early in life. This includes school-based education on nutrition, physical activity, and stress management. Preventive measures should be the cornerstone of our healthcare system.

Lastly, as we focus on India's younger generation on World Heart Day, what message would you like to convey?

My message is clear: Health is genuine wealth. Instead of relentlessly pursuing financial success, which often leads to stress and unhealthy lifestyles, people should prioritise their well-being. Happiness and contentment are invaluable. Acquiring skills and leading healthier lives should be the goal, rather than striving to be number one in a high-stress environment. A balanced approach to life can significantly reduce the risk of heart disease.

Unlocking the Heart's Secrets

Dr. Aditya Batra's Journey in Interventional Cardiology

Meet Dr. Aditya Batra, a distinguished Chief Interventional Cardiologist renowned for his expertise and dedication in the field of cardiology. Dr. Batra serves as a beacon of hope for heart patients, specialising in interventional cardiology at the Holy Heart Advanced Cardiac Care & Research Centre in Rohtak. With a commitment to cardiac health and a wealth of knowledge, he has made remarkable strides in the realm of heart care.

Let's delve into the world of cardiac excellence with Dr. Aditya Batra.

Dr. Batra, could you please share your journey and experience in the field of cardiology, particularly interventional cardiology, and what inspired you to specialise in this area?

After my days of training in Medicine, I observed a lot of people suffering from heart diseases and especially the increasing number of young people also getting affected. I entered into this field of cardiology in 2008. My specialisation lies in the field of cardiology and interventional cardiology. To elucidate, cardiology involves the clinical examination of patients with cardiac concerns. It entails conducting di-

agnostic investigations such as electrocardiography (ECG) to assess the heart's electrical activity, echocardiography for ultrasound imaging of the heart's structure and function, and non-invasive procedures like treadmill tests to evaluate coronary artery disease and rhythm abnormalities. In cases where significant blockages are suspected, we perform coronary angiographies in the catheterization laboratory, followed by interventional procedures like angioplasty and stent placement to address blockages.

Moreover, cardiology encompasses congenital heart conditions, heart failure, and heart rhythm disorders, presenting a wide spectrum of cardiac issues that we encounter in our day-to-day practice.

Dr. Batra, could you provide insights into key advancements and breakthroughs in cardiology, particularly interventional cardiology, and how these have improved patient outcomes? This is especially significant in a country like India where a substantial portion of the population grapples with heart-related conditions.

Absolutely, India faces a significant



Dr Aditya Batra
Director and Chief Interventional Cardiologist
Holyheart Hospital, Rohtak

burden of heart diseases, and it's unfortunate that we're predisposed to develop these conditions, often a decade earlier than Western populations. Several factors contribute to this predisposition, including our evolving genetics and detrimental lifestyle choices such as unhealthy eating habits, insufficient exercise, and heightened stress levels. These factors contribute to conditions like diabetes, hypertension, and obesity, all of which escalate the risk of heart disease.

Newer diagnostic and treatment modalities are evolving everyday in the field of interventional cardiology. Newer generation of stents, pacemakers, valves and other devices are helping more and more patients in a better way. Imagining modalities like IVUS and OCT are really helpful to get better outcomes during angioplasty.

But remember that prevention is paramount. Individuals should be aware of their family history, especially if there's a history of heart disease at a young age (below 50 years) among immediate family members. To reduce the risk of heart disease, adopting a healthy lifestyle is crucial. This includes consuming a diet rich in fruits and vegetables, staying hydrated,

reducing intake of fats and refined sugars, engaging in regular aerobic exercises such as brisk walking, cycling, jogging, or swimming, abstaining from smoking and excessive alcohol consumption, and managing stress through practices like yoga and meditation. Maintaining a healthy body and mind plays a pivotal role in averting heart-related ailments.

What message would you like to convey to the global community, and specifically to Indians, on World Heart Day, which falls on September 29th? As we're working on a story for this occasion, your views would be invaluable.

On World Heart Day, my message to everyone is straightforward: Health is true wealth. Rather than relentlessly pursuing financial success, which often leads to stress and unhealthy lifestyles, prioritise your well-being. Happiness and contentment are invaluable. Focus on acquiring skills and leading a healthier life, instead of constantly striving to be number one in a high-stress environment. A balanced approach to life can significantly reduce the risk of heart disease and lead to a happier, healthier, and more fulfilling life.



Unveiling the World of Congenital Heart Defects with Dr. Bhushan Shah: Causes, Symptoms, and Intervention

In an informative discussion with Dr. Bhushan Shah, Assistant Professor of Cardiology at AIIMS Bhopal, we explore the intricate realm of congenital heart problems. Dr. Shah sheds light on the common types of congenital heart defects affecting individuals from infancy to adulthood, the vital signs and symptoms for early detection, and the latest advancements in diagnosis and treatment.

Join us in unravelling the complexities of congenital heart issues and the imperative importance of early intervention for improved patient outcomes.

Dr Bhushan, could you give us an overview of congenital heart problems and the common types that affect patients from infants to adults?

Congenital heart disease (CHD), also known as a birth defect, refers to one or more structural abnormalities in the heart that are present from birth. In India, an alarming statistic reveals that approximately 9 out of every 1,000 infants are born with a heart defect. This equates to approximately 240,000 cases of birth defects annually, which poses a significant challenge to families, society, and the healthcare system as a whole. CHD comprises a wide array of conditions, sometimes occurring in combination with each other.

COMMON TYPES OF CONGENITAL HEART DEFECTS

Atrial or Ventricular Septal Defect (ASD/VSD): This condition involves a hole between two of the heart's chambers.

Coarctation: It refers to the narrowing of the main large artery (aorta) that carries blood from the heart to the body.

Pulmonary Valve Stenosis: In this condition, the valve in the heart responsible for controlling blood flow from the lower right chamber to the lungs is narrower than normal.

Transposition of Great Arteries: This anomaly entails the main arteries supplying blood to the body and the lungs being in swapped positions.

Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA): In



Dr. Bhushan Shah
Assistant Professor, Department of Cardiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhopal

some cases, the main large artery supplying blood to the whole body (aorta) may be connected to the main artery supplying blood to the lungs (pulmonary artery) by a connection known as PDA.

What are the key signs and symptoms that parents should watch for identifying congenital heart issues, and how important is early diagnosis and intervention?

Congenital heart disease (CHD) can manifest a range of symptoms, primarily in infants and children, which parents should remain vigilant for. These symptoms include a rapid heartbeat, accelerated breathing, a bluish tint to the skin or lips, pronounced fatigue and weakness in comparison to peers, swift breathing during feeding, inadequate weight gain, and swelling in the legs, abdomen, or around the eyes. Timely diagnosis, ideally during prenatal care or immediately after birth, plays a pivotal role in directing affected individuals to specialised centres equipped to deliver prompt treatment. Such early in-

tervention is critical to avert potential complications that can span from mild to severe disabilities, and in some cases, even loss of life.

Could you discuss the latest advancements in the diagnosis and treatment of congenital heart problems, including any minimally invasive procedures or surgical techniques that have emerged in recent years?

Recent advancements have transformed the diagnosis and treatment of congenital heart problems. Foetal echocardiography, conducted while the baby is in the mother's womb, enables early detection. For complex cases, cardiac CT with angiography provides a comprehensive diagnostic approach. Treatment options now span minimally invasive techniques, including device closure of defects, stenting to address narrowed arteries, percutaneous valve replacements, and intricate cardiac surgeries. These innovations offer improved outcomes with reduced invasiveness.

How does the management of congenital heart problems differ for paediatric patients compared to adults, and what long-term care considerations should patients and their families be aware of as they navigate this condition?

Managing congenital heart problems significantly differs between paediatric and adult patients. Paediatric cases are often more complex, compounded by low birth weight, necessitating early surgical intervention for survival into adulthood. Conversely, adults newly diagnosed with congenital heart disease may have simpler defects or be inoperable cases. We are now seeing an emerging group of grown-up congenital heart disease patients who underwent corrective surgeries during childhood. It's imperative for patient families to recognize that congenital heart issues require lifelong medical care and ongoing monitoring for optimal long-term outcomes.

Unlocking Insights: Dr. Aviraj Choudhary on Preventing Young Cardiac Deaths

Dr. Aviraj Choudhary, a renowned Cardiologist at Sarvodaya Multi-Specialty Hospital in Hisar, specializes in complex coronary interventions and advanced cardiac procedures. In this interview, we delve into the rare occurrence of cardiac issues in young individuals, exploring common risk factors and emphasizing the pivotal role of early detection and preventive cardiology in averting young cardiac deaths.

Dr. Choudhary sheds light on advanced techniques and treatments for young cardiac patients, highlighting their evolution over the years. Success stories illustrate the transformative impact of timely interventions, and valuable insights are shared to guide young adults in prioritizing heart health and reducing the risk of premature cardiac issues.

Can you explain why young individuals sometimes experience cardiac issues and even deaths, and what are the common risk factors associated with these occurrences?

Young individuals experiencing cardiac issues and even deaths is uncommon but can be attributed to various risk factors. These factors encompass genetic predisposition, structural heart abnormalities, medical conditions like congenital heart disease or arrhythmias, drug abuse, and lifestyle choices such as poor diet, lack of exercise, smoking, or excessive alcohol consumption. Psychological factors like chronic stress and anxiety may also contribute. Consulting a medical professional is essential for understanding individual risk factors.

What role does early detection and preventive cardiology play in reducing the incidence of young cardiac deaths, and what warning signs should young people be aware of?



Dr Aviraj Choudhary
MBBS MD DM(Cardiology)
Interventional Cardiologist,
Sarvodaya Multi Speciality Hospital,
Hisar, Haryana

Early detection and preventive cardiology play a pivotal role in reducing young cardiac deaths. Identifying risk factors and potential cardiac issues early allows for interventions and lifestyle modifications. Young people should be vigilant about warning signs, including chest discomfort, shortness of breath, palpitations, dizziness, fainting, and extreme fatigue. Regular check-ups, especially for those with a family history of cardiac issues, aid in early detection and preventive care. Embracing a healthy lifestyle with exercise, a balanced diet, avoidance of tobacco, limited alcohol, stress management, and adequate sleep significantly reduce cardiac risk in young individuals.

As a cardiology interventionist, what are some of the advanced techniques and treatments available to address cardiac issues in young patients, and how have

these interventions evolved over the years?

Advanced techniques and treatments for young cardiac patients have seen significant progress. Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) opens narrowed arteries with balloons and stents. Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) replaces aortic valves minimally invasively. Left Ventricular Assist Devices (LVADs) aid severe heart failure patients. Electrophysiology Studies and Ablation treat abnormal heart rhythms. These interventions have evolved with improved technology, safety, and efficacy, emphasizing minimally invasive procedures, advanced materials, imaging, and navigation tools. Research explores gene therapy, regenerative medicine, and AI, offering promising treatments.

Could you share some success stories or cases where timely intervention made a significant difference in the lives of young patients facing cardiac challenges?

Success stories underscore the importance of timely intervention. For example, a 26-year-old patient with acute myocardial infarction underwent primary angioplasty within the "golden hour," preserving both heart muscles and life.

In your experience, what are the most important steps individuals, especially young adults, can take to prioritize their heart health and reduce the risk of cardiac issues that could lead to premature death?

Prioritizing heart health and averting premature death involves regular physical activity to maintain a healthy weight, reduce blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar levels. A healthy lifestyle helps normalize these factors, reducing the risk of heart disease and heart attacks.

Use Heart for Every Heart

World Heart Day on September 29, serves as the biggest awareness-raising platform for cardiovascular diseases



The heart has taken centre stage in myriads of idioms and poetic expressions since time immemorial, alluding to its vital role in human existence as the first and the last sign of life. Roughly the size of a closed human fist, the heart, is known to pump 1.5 gallons of blood in a single minute and beats an average of 1,00,000 times per day. It works day in and day out until the unwelcome and stealthy arrival of the dreaded cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), which, as per the findings of the World Health Organisation, "are the leading cause of death globally."

Cardiovascular diseases are a medical term used to indicate conditions and disorders that affect the human heart or blood vessels. CVDs can be detected as coronary heart disease, rheumatic heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, congenital heart disease, peripheral arterial disease and in the form of other conditions of the heart and the blood vessels. As per the World Heart Federation (WHF), a Geneva-based NGO that champions heart health and is the principal representative body of the global cardiovascular community, "CVD is the world's number one killer, causing over 18.6 million deaths per year."

In light of the harsh reality that CVDs are accountable for nearly half of all deaths resulting from non-communicable diseases, the annual observance of World Heart Day on September 29, initiated by the WHF, serves as the biggest awareness-raising platform for cardiovascular diseases by mobilising action to educate and unite people in the global fight against CVDs. The purpose of observing World Heart Day is to inspire and drive global involvement aimed at promoting a heart-healthy lifestyle.

Every year on September 29, people from different backgrounds around the world actively engage in a range of public talks, educational programmes, podcasts, fund-raising and sporting events, poster-making competitions and a variety of activities to raise public awareness of CVDs and their global impact. The day witnesses people, organisations and governments highlighting the measures that are instrumental in averting and controlling cardiovascular diseases. Free health check-ups are set up and leaflets containing vital information regarding the prevention of deaths and life-threatening conditions caused by CVDs are distributed.

There is strong evidence that most cardiovascular diseases can be prevented by addressing behavioural risk factors — unhealthy diet, use of tobacco, physical inactivity, obesity and the harmful use of alcohol. That is why early detection of CVDs, along with access to adequate information, proper medical assistance, counselling and aftercare assume paramount importance in the global battle against CVDs.

The theme of this year's World Heart Day, decided by the WHF, is 'Use Heart for Every Heart'. The message of WHF sums up the essence of World Heart Day — "Beating CVD is something that matters to every beating heart."

Why Testing is important in Heart Health

Diagnostics play a pivotal role across the entire healthcare continuum from risk assessment, early detection and prognosis to patient stratification and condition monitoring.

Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) remain a leading global health concern, responsible for a significant portion of worldwide mortality. Indians are more prone to Heart Disease. The rate of heart disease in India (282 out of 100,000) is higher than the worldwide average (233 out of 100,000) Tata 1mg.

Early detection and accurate diagnostics are paramount for effective prevention and management of cardiovascular conditions. Fortunately, advancements in diagnostics testing have revolutionized cardiovascular health care, offering patients and healthcare providers more precise tools for assessing heart health.

Cardiovascular diseases encompass a wide range of conditions, including coronary artery disease, heart failure, arrhythmias, and valvular disorders. Early detection and accurate assessment are crucial because they allow for timely interventions that can significantly improve a patient's prognosis and quality of life.



Dr Prashant Nag
MBBS, MD (pathology)
Vice President, Tata 1mg Labs

sugar, glycosylated hemoglobin, thyroid function & lipid profile is very important.

Screening for cholesterol levels, which is one of the important risk factors, by lipid profile, should start from childhood. Once around 10 years of age & then again at 20 years of age is recommended for young individuals.

Regular monitoring of Lipid profiles especially from younger age groups helps identify dyslipidaemia, which is a major risk factor of heart disease. After 35 years of age, it should be part of the annual cardiac checkup.

Recent American Heart Association guidelines recommend both fasting and non-fasting lipid profile tests for detecting abnormally elevated cholesterol or fats (lipids) in the blood. This brings ease and convenience in lipid-profile testing, subsequently leading to a more compliant cardiovascular management and monitoring.

Fasting lipid profile may be required

in people with high triglyceride levels found on screening. Regular monitoring of Lipid profiles especially from younger age groups helps identify dyslipidaemia, which is a major risk factor of heart disease.

Based on a report released earlier this year by Tata 1mg Labs, over 66% of people in India have higher than normal levels of homocysteine in their bloodstream. Elevated homocysteine levels can increase the risk of heart diseases such as blood clots, heart attacks, and strokes. Therefore, including cardiac health markers as part of routine screenings is essential for monitoring and maintaining optimal heart health.

Many heart conditions can be asymptomatic or present vague symptoms. Testing allows for the early detection and diagnosis of conditions such as coronary artery disease, arrhythmias, and heart valve disorders. Tests like electrocardiograms (ECGs), stress tests, and echocardiograms are instrumental in diagnosing these conditions.

Early detection provides a window of opportunity for timely intervention.

MONITORING PROGRESS

Assessing Treatment Efficacy & Preventing complications: For individuals already diagnosed with heart conditions, regular testing is essential to monitor the effectiveness of treatment. & pick early signs of deterioration & complications. Blood tests, imaging, and other diagnostic tools help healthcare providers track changes in heart health and adjust treatment plans accordingly.

By recognizing the significance of testing in heart health, we can collectively work towards reducing the burden of cardiovascular diseases and improving the quality of life for individuals worldwide.

12 GOVT & POLITICS

COMPLAINT AGAINST BIDHURI, BJP'S COUNTER AGAINST ALI

Communal slurs row: Privileges panel to look into all complaints

LIZ MATHEW

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

ALL COMPLAINTS around BJP MP Ramesh Bidhuri's use of communal slurs against BSP MP Danish Ali, on the floor of Lok Sabha a week ago, have been referred to the Privileges Committee.

While Ali and other Opposition MPs had sought action against Bidhuri, BJP MP Nishikant Dubey had asked Speaker Om Birla to constitute an inquiry committee to probe instances of "unsavoury remarks" made by Opposition leaders.

"The Privileges Committee will look into all the complaints regarding the incident," a source in the Lok Sabha Secretariat said.

The 14-member Privileges Committee has eight members from the BJP, including its head Sunil Kumar Singh.

The remarks by Bidhuri, expunged by the Speaker from the records, were made during a discussion on the Chandrayaan-3 mission in the special session of Parliament last week.

In his letter to the Speaker, Ali



BJP's Bidhuri (left) targeted BSP's Danish Ali on the floor of the Lok Sabha last week



said Bidhuri, BJP's South Delhi MP, had called him "bhadwa" (pimp), "katwa" (circumcised one) and "Mullah aatankwadi" (Muslim terrorist).

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who was present in Lok Sabha during the exchange, had apologised to the House for Bidhuri's remarks soon after.

However, Dubey said Ali had "instigated" Bidhuri into making the communal slurs.

The Opposition had closed ranks behind Ali, with Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and K C Venugopal visiting the BSP MP, and the party, the DMK, Trinamool Congress and NCP seeking a Privileges Committee probe into Bidhuri's remarks.

The BJP had issued a show

media Thursday that this was due to the "majority" enjoyed by the BJP in the House. "It was possible today because the BJP has the majority in the Lok Sabha... otherwise it would have been like... the RJD-Congress-JD(U) fight for mike and shoes in 2006, the assault by Sonia Gandhi in 2012 or the physical scuff over the issue of Telangana formation in 2014 in which MPs were injured – that neither a committee would have been formed nor would anyone get punished."

In his speech during the women's quota Bill debate too, Dubey had raised these incidents of violence in Parliament.

The Parliament Privileges Committee makes recommendations "as it may deem fit" after examining the cases referred to it. It can summon the people concerned as part of the examination and look at records. There is no fixed timeline for its report.

Recently, the Privileges Committee recommended the revocation of suspension of Congress MP Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury over his remarks targeting Prime Minister Modi during the no-confidence motion debate.



BRS LEADERS JOIN CONGRESS

Telangana MLA Hanumanth Rao (2nd from left) with Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge as he joins the party along with former MLA leader Vemula Veeresham, in New Delhi on Thursday. The move comes as Congress seeks to dislodge Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao-led BRS in the coming Assembly polls. Anil Sharma

Bengal Gov orders police removed from his residence: 'Being tracked'

Writes to MHA and state for jammers, seeks de-bugging

ENS & PTI

KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 28

EXPRESSING FEAR that he was being "tapped and tracked", West Bengal Governor CV Ananda Bose in a letter to the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and the state government has requested enhanced security at the Raj Bhavan, including the installation of jammers and de-bugging of the premises, and ordered an immediate removal of Kolkata Police personnel from his official residence.

The city police personnel will be removed from all the floors of the residential and office sections of the Governor's House and replaced with his personal security guards drawn from the CRPF, officials said.

The Governor wants the



West Bengal Governor CV Ananda Bose

Kolkata Police to guard only the entrance and exit points, gardens, and surrounding areas of the Raj Bhavan complex, they added.

"Bose has also directed that there should be frequent shuffling of policemen posted at the Raj Bhavan. Kolkata Police personnel were earlier during the last Governor's term confined only to the ground floor of Raj Bhavan," an official said.

In January, Bose was accorded Z-plus security provided by the Union Home Ministry, which entitles him to personnel drawn from central forces.



Almost as if by mutual agreement, the BJP has kept Rajeev Gandhi at an arm's length and she too has maintained distance. File

bagged by the RLP backed by the BJP. Of these seats, the Congress wrested three and retained four, while the BJP and the RLP retained one each.

Similarly, the Jan Aakrosh

Yatra in December last year was led by then state president Satish Poonia. Eventually, BJP Rajasthan in-charge Arun Singh said the Yatra was being suspended "keeping in mind the Covid proto-

Tobacco warnings on OTT: Amid pushback from platforms, Govt looking for a solution

May relax rules for existing content and licensed foreign programmes

DIVYAA A

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

FACING A strong pushback from streaming giants such as Netflix, Amazon and Disney Hotstar, the Government is working to find "pragmatic solutions" to the OTT industry's concerns over the practicability of the order mandating display of anti-tobacco warnings, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

Under the new rules, which came into force September 1, OTT platforms are required to insert static health warnings during smoking scenes, besides displaying anti-tobacco disclaimers at the start and in the middle of programmes, much like those for theatres and TV.

It sparked concerns in the OTT industry, with platforms arguing it would require millions of hours of existing content to be edited, diminish user experience and hamper creative freedom. The notification empowers the government to enforce compliance through legal means.

Sources said the Government may grant the OTT platforms a relaxation in terms of existing content and licensed foreign content. As of now, the rules, notified in May, apply to all content hosted by OTT platforms, even retrospectively. Incorporating the warnings in the existing content was something the OTT industry flagged as a major issue, even as it was amenable to editing new content.

The Government's relook is in line with its commitment to OTT platforms, which had flagged "practical issues" in implementing the order, during a meeting on August 28, three days before the order came into effect.

Chaired by Union Health Secretary Sudhanshu Pant and co-chaired by Union I&B Secretary

Apurva Chandra, the meeting, sources said, was inconclusive and ended with the OTT platforms putting their foot down and the Government offering to find a solution.

With the rules coming into force nonetheless, several OTT platforms such as Jio, Amazon, Voot and Netflix have since started to display anti-tobacco warnings on some of their content, fearing legal repercussions.

A senior representative of a major streaming firm, who was among those present during the talks with the Government, said the platforms are awaiting a word from the Government.

"To date, there has been no further word on the final rules, whether a new notification will be issued, or if another meeting will be held," the OTT representative said.

According to sources, after the meeting, the Health Ministry issued two versions of the minutes of the meeting to the attendees. The initial version stated that OTT representatives "acknowledged the devastating impact of tobacco depiction on TV, cinema and OTT and also committed to supporting the cause by conducting workshops for creating greater awareness".

The revised version, which supersedes the earlier one, added that "the participants... also committed to supporting the cause by displaying a disclaimer at the beginning of the content, inclusion of tobacco in the content descriptors, no advertisement / marketing/promotion of tobacco products on OTT platforms, as well as conducting workshops for creating greater awareness".

Both the versions recorded that the OTT industry "supported the 2023 Rules in spirit and highlighted certain challenges in implementing the same in letter".

Afghanistan embassy in New Delhi may shut down its operations

SHUBHAJIT ROY

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

THE AFGHANISTAN embassy in New Delhi is learnt to be looking at shutting its operations, sources have told *The Indian Express*.

Sources in the Indian government said that the Afghan Embassy in New Delhi has "purportedly issued a communication on this issue". A source said that the authenticity of the communication and its contents are "being examined".

"This is in the context of the Ambassador being out of India for the past many months, steady stream of diplomats to third countries reportedly after receiving asylum, as well as reports of infighting amongst Embassy personnel," the source said.

This comes months after a power struggle was underway at the Afghan embassy in Delhi as Ambassador Farid Mamundzay, appointed by the previous Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, was bat-

tling to stay on in office in defiance of the Taliban-run Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kabul.

The Taliban regime has taken control of at least 14 missions abroad where it has posted its own nominees, but Delhi is not yet one of them.

Aware of the infighting at the embassy that erupted at the end of April, the MEA has not taken sides. Sources said it had conveyed to both sides that it was an internal matter that they needed to settle by themselves.

In June this year, the Ministry of External Affairs' official spokesperson had said in response to questions, "From our perspective, this is an internal matter of the Afghan embassy and we hope that they would resolve it internally."

India had closed down its embassy after the Taliban took over the country, and the Ashraf Ghani government collapsed in August 2021. But, now it has a technical team to coordinate humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan.

PRESENCE ON RECORD

THE SUPREME Court witnessed an interesting exchange during the hearing of a PIL that challenged the rules of Delhi municipal council elections. The bench presided by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud was not inclined to entertain it and asked the petitioner to approach the Delhi High Court. As the counsel for the ECI was present at the hearing, the CJI asked if it should record his presence in the order. In a lighter vein, the CJI added that he would then be able to charge his client. The ECI counsel said he had given word not to charge for an ineffective hearing. The court appreciated the gesture and went on to record his presence, saying "we have been there too and know how important these things are".

CANNES AGAIN

AFTER WALKING the red carpet at the Cannes film festival in May this year, MoS for Information and Broadcasting L Murugan will lead the Indian delegation to the Tashkent International Film Festival this weekend. The festival was started in 1968, and Indian film 'Amrapali' was screened in its opening edition. The minister had turned heads at Cannes when he walked the red carpet in the traditional 'veshti', with the national flag pinned on the left side and the G20 logo on the right.

GUESSING GAME

THE BUZZ in BJP circles is that Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan is not sure whether he will be projected as the BJP's face for the Assembly polls. Sources in the party say that Chouhan's team was taken aback after seeing seven MPs, including three Union ministers, being fielded by the party while his name did not figure in the list.

Indians now make up over 10% per cent of US visa applicants

1 million visas issued this yr: Embassy

DIVYAA A

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

THE US Embassy has issued over a million non-immigrant visas to Indian travellers so far this year, achieving ahead of time a target it set for this year after opening up weekend slots to clear the pandemic-related backlog.

The millionth visa, the US Embassy said in a statement Thursday, was personally handed over by US Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti to Ranju Singh, who is visiting the US along with her spouse to meet their son, a student.

Non-immigrant visa categories include those for business, travel, student visas and crew visas.

Describing it as one of the most robust travel relationships in the world, the US Embassy said over 1.2 million Indians visited the country last year.

Indians now represent over 10 percent of all visa applicants worldwide, including 20 percent of all student visa applicants and 65 percent of all H&L-category (employment) visa applicants, the statement said.

"Our partnership with India

is among the most important bilateral relationships, and in fact, one of the most important relationships in the world. The ties between our people are stronger than ever, and we will continue our record-setting volume of visa work in the coming months," said Garcetti.

Early next year, the US plans to implement a pilot programme that will allow domestic visa renewal for qualified H&L-category employment visa applicants, the statement said.

The move will significantly benefit Indian tech workers, who will be able to get their visas processed while being in the US, it said. Indians receive more than three quarters of the H-1B visas annually, while the L1 visa facility is also used by a large chunk of Indian citizens.

In January, the US embassy opened up special interview slots on Saturdays for faster processing of visas for first-time applicants, in what it called a "multi-pronged initiative" to address the backlog in processing of visa applications due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Mission has also extended interview waiver eligibility to new visa categories.

While there was speculation that the BJP might change course in Rajasthan following Karnataka, where the party's loss, for a large part, was blamed on its sidelining of state satraps, particularly former CMBS Yediyurappa, the party has again opted for the central leadership to lead the campaign in Rajasthan while sidelining arguably its biggest asset and the

Congress government of CM Ashok Gehlot even once during his half-an-hour address.

Moreover, the anchoring of the event by BJP MP Diya Kumari and BJP National Secretary Alka Gurjar gave the impression that the party wants to bring in new leaders, and new women leaders at that.

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only leader to have a following across the state, Vasundhara Raje.

Almost as if by mutual agreement, the party has kept Raje at an arm's length from its programmes, while she too has maintained her distance. The anti-Raje camp says

that she should have contributed more to the party in the last four years and a half, while those close to her say she was never invited for the programmes she is accused of skipping.

This applies to the nine bypolls, the Jan Aakrosh Yatra last year, and more recently, the Parivartan Sankalp Yatra, among others.

Of the nine bypolls since 2018, the Congress won seven and the BJP one, while one was

CRPF constable killed, inspector injured in IED explosion in Jharkhand



The injured CRPF inspector

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
RANCHI, SEPTEMBER 28

A CENTRAL Reserve Police Force (CRPF) constable was killed and an inspector sustained injuries in an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand during a combing operation on Thursday. This is the third such incident and fourth casualty of a security personnel in less than one-and-a-half months.

In Thursday's incident, police identified the deceased as Constable Rajesh Kumar and the injured as Inspector Bhupendra Kumar — both from CRPF's 209 Battalion.

"In this sequence, a joint operation was being conducted on September 28 in the border area of village Sarjomburu, Tumbahaka under Tonto police station. Two IEDs dug in the road were detected and destroyed. However, around noon, three IEDs were detonated in the forest area due to which two personnel were injured," said a press release. Constable Rajesh Kumar later died during treatment, it said.

Two more incidents had occurred under the same police station: on August 14 two two Jharkhand Police personnel were killed during an encounter with members of the banned CPI (Maoist); and on August 11, Head Constable Sushanta Kumar Khuntia of CRPF's 80th Battalion was killed in the same area.

Jharkhand Police and CRPF are currently combing the area as the top CPI (Maoist) leader Misir Besra and other cadres are said to be 'roaming' in the area.

Cops crack Ujjain rape case: Auto driver grabbed minor when she was out alone

ANAND MOHAN J
BHOPAL, SEPTEMBER 28

THE UJJAIN police on Thursday arrested an autorickshaw driver for the rape of a minor girl, who was seen in CCTV footage going door to door seeking help from people three days ago. The accused has been identified as Bharat Soni (24).

After his arrest, Soni was taken to the crime spot when he "tried to flee, pelted stones at several police officers and fell into a pit while running away", said Superintendent of Police, Ujjain, Sachin Sharma.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the state government will spare no effort in ensuring the strictest punishment for the accused. "I have been constantly monitoring the situation. These kinds of criminals are not fit to live in society. He has injured the spirit of Madhya Pradesh. She is a daughter of Madhya Pradesh

Show sensitivity: NCPCR to parties

New Delhi: The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) on Thursday issued an appeal to leaders of all political parties to "show sensitivity" and not crowd the hospital where the minor rape victim from Ujjain is undergoing treatment.

The appeal comes in light of its member coming across a political party worker who was stationed at the hospital.

"We had sent a member of

the commission for an inquiry into the incident. Even that person was not allowed to meet the victim. The attending doctor told the member that the victim was in severe trauma. At the time, the member found a representative from a political party sitting in the hospital, waiting to meet the victim, along with television personnel. That is why we have made the appeal," said NCPCR chairperson Priyank Kanoongo. **ENS**

several persons in furtherance of common intention) of the IPC.

The police have also tracked the girl's family to Satna district and have contacted her grandfather.

According to the police, the girl, who is recuperating from her surgery, will be looked after by the MP police as a local police officer has volunteered to take care of her education and expenses.

"The officer will adopt the girl. Her education and other living expenses will be taken care of...We will do character verification of all the autorickshaw and e-rickshaw drivers in Ujjain and create a database," SP Sharma said.

The police had formed a 28-member team to probe the case. They said they checked over a 1,000 CCTV footage of the city, questioned over 100 known criminals in the area, besides rickshaw pullers, e-rickshaw and autorickshaw drivers, bus operators, and people at railway sta-

tions and bus stands.

According to the police, the girl was wandering alone in the area when Soni allegedly caught hold of her and sexually assaulted her. The police had detained at least five auto drivers. One of them was picked up after bloodstains were found at the back of his autorickshaw. It was later found that he saw the girl after she was raped and gave her a ride, but did not inform the police. He was booked for not reporting the incident, the police said.

The police traced the girl's grandfather to Satna district. He had filed a missing persons report on September 25 at a local police station. He said his granddaughter went missing on September 24 when he left home to graze the goats around 10 am. "I searched for her in the locality and the relatives also did not see her," the complainant said in the FIR, adding that his granddaughter was mentally challenged and could not even tell the name of her village.

Nine-day Himalayan Challenge begins; rally to take participants to breathtaking landscapes in Ladakh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 28

HARYANA GOVERNOR Bandaru Dattatreya inaugurated the Himalayan Challenge on Wednesday, marking the beginning of a thrilling nine-day expedition. Motorsports enthusiasts from various parts of the country gathered in Chandigarh to embark on the journey.

The Himalayan Challenge follows the route of the Himalayan Rally of 1982, taking participants to some of the most breathtaking landscapes — such as Leh and Pangong Tso lake — and culminating at the highest motorable road in the world, the Umling La pass which is located at an altitude of 19,300 feet. The participants will traverse



During the flagging off of the rally

through five high mountain passes, each presenting its own set of challenges. Among the

notable passes on this scenic route are the Rohtang La (3,978 metres), Baralacha La (4,850 me-

tres), Tanglang La and Shunkula Pass, each offering a unique blend of adventure and beauty. The route will also cover places like Sonamarg and Kargil in Kashmir, apart from Hanle and return to Manali on October 4.

The non-competitive expedition, organised by Firefox, is an opportunity for motorsport aficionados to come together for their shared passion for adventure and speed.

Along with the thrill of driving on challenging routes, participants will be treated to panoramic vistas. As the expedition progresses, the participants are likely to face unpredictable weather conditions in the region. Temperatures drop as low as six degrees Celsius during nighttime with the average around 16 degrees Celsius during the day.

"This is the third Himalayan Challenge and it is being held on some of the most challenging routes in the Himalayas. While the first two editions were held on the route of the Himalayan Rally, this edition is being staged on the reverse great Himalayan rally route," said Rajan Syal, director of Team Firefox and a former rallyist.

The rally is witnessing the participation of three classic cars manufactured between 1955 and 1996 and 61 Sports Utility Vehicles (SUVs).

"More than 180 persons, including rallyists and their families, are taking part in the challenge. There are 55 women and 16 foreigners in the convoy. We will be ensuring that the health of all the participants is monitored every day and the cars too are inspected every day," said Syal.

Matter of great concern: Gujarat law panel flags custodial deaths

PARIMAL DABHI
GANDHINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 28

FLAGGING INCREASING incidents of custodial death in Gujarat as "a matter of great public concern", the Gujarat State Law Commission (SLC) has recently submitted a report to the state government making several suggestions. It has also pointed out that not a single case registered against police personnel has resulted in conviction in 2021.

In the report submitted to the government in July, SLC chairman, Justice (retired) M B Shah, has suggested the need for reforms to sensitise the police to function within the constitutional framework, to promote transparency by installation of video-audio enabled CCTV cameras at police stations and prisons, to take strict legal action against police personnel who misuse their official position, to conduct regular health check-ups of prisoners and to have exclusive interrogation teams specialising in the process of gathering evidence from those detained.

The report titled 'Suggestions to have proper control on the law enforcing agency for prevention of unwanted instances of custodial death' was submitted to the state legislative and parliamentary affairs department. Justice Shah, a former Supreme Court judge, has headed a commission of inquiry to probe illegal mining in Goa and a special investigation team to probe black money.

In February, the Rajya Sabha was informed by the Ministry of Home Affairs that between 2017 and 2022, Gujarat reported highest cases — 80 — of custodial deaths across the country.

In its report, the SLC cited reports of various publications, indicating increasing trend of custodial death in Gujarat. As per a report published by *The Indian*

Express, based on NCRB data — which has also been cited by the SLC in its report — Gujarat reported the highest number of custodial deaths, 23, for the second consecutive year in 2021. In 2020, it had recorded 15 such cases — a rise of 53 per cent.

The SLC also cited the chapter on custodial crimes and complaints against police personnel from the 'NCRB - Crimes in India: 2021' report.

"...statistical data relating to deaths in police custody/lock-up (persons not on remand)... 22 people reportedly died in Gujarat in 2021 during police custody (though not on remand). In nine cases, magisterial inquiries were ordered, while judicial inquiries were ordered in 11 cases. Further, four cases were registered, of which chargesheet (was filed) in two... Moreover, 12 policemen were arrested and nine were chargesheeted," the report said.

It added that as per data relating to deaths in police custody/lock-up among persons in remand, one person reportedly died in Gujarat in 2021 and a magisterial inquiry was ordered.

The report said in all, 23 people reportedly died in Gujarat in police custody or lock-up in 2021. Citing the cases registered against police personnel, the SLC said that among the 209 cases lodged against state police personnel in 2021, seven were quashed/stayed by courts, while the police filed chargesheet in 182 cases and in 878 cases, final report was submitted.

The SLC said, "...it is a matter of great public concern that the incidences of custodial death are increasing day-by-day in Gujarat, which is quite atrocious."

"It... needs to be accepted that the doubts on the functioning of the police are raised rampantly because many of the policemen are trying their best to misuse their power..." it said.

WORLD

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HEART DAY

World Heart Day is observed every year on 29th September with the aim of increasing awareness regarding cardiovascular disease.

Healthy heart makes a healthy life, healthy life makes a Healthy Nation. It is important to take care of the health of our heart which beats around 72 times per minute throughout our lifetime. Neglecting the health of our heart may lead to cardiovascular disease, stroke and sudden heart attacks.

Cardiovascular Disease is a class of disease that affects heart or blood vessels. Cardiovascular Disease is considered as the No.1 Killer in the World.

Over 8.6 million deaths occur every year globally due to cardiovascular disease.

Love your Heart
Keep it strong

RISK FACTORS

- Family history
- Smoking
- Diabetes
- High Cholesterol
- Unhealthy diet
- Physical inactivity
- Excessive Alcohol
- Obesity
- Stress

World Heart Day is observed annually on 29th September with the aim of increasing awareness of cardiovascular disease and how to control them.

COMMON SYMPTOMS

Cardiovascular disease is a silent killer. Most of the time it remains asymptomatic. The patients may present with:

- Pain or discomfort in the center of the

Keep Your Heart Beating, beating and beating...

WORLD HEART DAY
29 SEPTEMBER

chest

- Pain or discomfort in left shoulder, left arm, back and neck
- Difficulty in breathing

Earlier, it was thought that cardiovascular disease is seen among elderly persons only. However, it is seen that even at the young age of 30 to 40 years., the disease can be the seen.

PREVENTION OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

- Modification of life style
- Avoid smoking and tobacco consumption
- Control diabetes and hypertension
- Healthy Food habit: - eating fiber rich diet, fruits, vegetables and low calories diet.

Love your Life
Live for Long

- Avoid fatty and carbohydrates rich diet
- Regular exercises, preferably brisk walking, 40 to 50 minutes per day
- Proper continuous sleep - 6 to 8 hours per day.
- Regular Cardiac check-up especially Blood Pressure and Blood sugar after the age of 40.

THEME OF THIS YEAR

The World Heart Federation has adopted the following Theme for World Heart Day 2023:

"USE HEART FOR EVERY HEART"

This Theme has a philosophical meaning conveying that one has to be empathetic, helpful and courteous towards others. Such behavior will provide a soothing effect to our heart and thereby reduce the stressful effect on our mind.

Greeting from Indian Medical Association on the occasion of World Heart Day.

It is important to take care of our heart which takes care of us throughout our life. Healthy Heart enables us to lead a healthy and productive life. The World Heart Day is observed mainly to disseminate information among the general public regarding health and disease of the heart.

Heart Diseases are preventable to large extent. Smoking, tobacco consumption, excessive alcohol consumption, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, diabetes and obesity are the main risk factors.

Healthy diet, modified lifestyle, regular physical activity and avoiding stressful environment will prevent the cardiovascular diseases.

With this, I heartily wish all the readers happy, healthy and joyful life.

Thanking you,
With regards,

DR. SAHAJANAND PRASAD SINGH
Immediate Past President, IMA



THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE
IF AGRICULTURE GOES WRONG, NOTHING ELSE WILL
HAVE A CHANCE TO GO RIGHT.
— M S SWAMINATHAN

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY
RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

EVERGREEN REVOLUTION

Most fitting tribute to MS Swaminathan would be to restore centrality of science — and scientists — in agriculture

MS SWAMINATHAN MAY not have developed the high-yielding wheat varieties that ushered in India's Green Revolution during the mid- and late-Sixties. The varieties that farmers sowed were originally bred in Mexico by the legendary Norman Borlaug. Even the subsequent blockbuster varieties such as Kalyan Sona and Sonalika that produced amber-coloured grain with better chapati-making quality than the red Mexican wheats were bred by men — the likes of VS Mathur, SP Kohli and DS Athwal — not as well known in the popular imagination. Swaminathan's key role was in recognising the potential of the new genetic strains or "plant type" responsive to increased fertiliser and water application, and devising a coherent strategy for their introduction and large-scale planting by farmers. He was a rare combination of someone who was abreast with the latest developments in agricultural sciences — including the deployment of the dwarf Norin-10 wheat genes by American researchers — and someone who could also work through the bureaucratic and political establishment for translating his strategic vision into farmers' fields.

Indian agriculture today lacks a champion pursuing strategic objectives for the sector with missionary zeal like Swaminathan. It equally lacks committed ministers and civil servants like C Subramaniam and B Sivaramakrishnan, who valued scientific opinion and could take bold decisions — such as importing 18,000 tonnes of seeds of Borlaug's Mexican wheats in 1966. Contrast that informed resoluteness with the current procrastination over genetic modification and new breeding technologies — a dawdling based not on science as much as on unsubstantiated fears of the unknown. The most fitting tribute to Swaminathan would be to restore the centrality of science — and scientists — in agriculture and, like him, to trust the wisdom and ability of the Indian farmer to adopt and adapt to new technologies.

The Borlaug-Swaminathan Green Revolution strategy basically relied on breeding varieties that would produce more grain with more fertiliser, especially nitrogen, and water application. That simple "more input, more output" strategy has probably run its course. Today, the challenge is breeding for climate change (short winters, temperature spikes, fewer rainy days and extreme precipitation were relatively unknown phenomena during Swaminathan's time) and improving water and nutrient use efficiency. In other words, "less input, more output". Swaminathan was right about the Green Revolution; it turned India from a "ship to mouth" importer to a country that became self-sufficient in foodgrains. He was equally right about aiming for an "Evergreen Revolution", which, in his words, was an "improvement of productivity in perpetuity without ecological harm".

A PREVENTABLE TOLL

Lancet report on cancer should lead to greater urgency in deploying gender-sensitive methods for screening, treatment

A NEW LANCET Commission report on gender inequity in cancer care lays out in stark numbers what has long been known anecdotally. While women have approximately the same burden of cancer as men, with 48 per cent of new cases and 44 per cent of deaths worldwide, the toll it takes on them is disproportionately higher. The authors of the "Women, Power and Cancer" commission's report have examined how asymmetries of power in relation to cancer play out in terms of decision-making, knowledge and economics in 185 countries. The findings are dispiriting: Not only is cancer one of the top three leading causes of premature deaths among women worldwide, but women are less likely to find the care they need once diagnosed, due to a lack of knowledge and decision-making power. They are also more likely to experience "financial catastrophe" due to cancer. In India, nearly two-thirds of the cancer deaths in women, the authors found, were preventable and 37 per cent were treatable if only they had been caught in time and received optimal care.

These findings show how gender dynamics play out when it comes to health: Globally, when women remain primarily valued for and defined by their reproductive role, women's health too gets reduced to maternal and reproductive health. Combine this with the fact that, from lack of access to little or limited access to education, employment and health-care, a range of factors ensures that women — especially from marginalised communities and in nations that rank low on the human development index — rarely go in for the tests and screenings that can help with early detection and treatment. These structural asymmetries play out in other ways too. Consider, for example, the under-representation of women in the oncology workforce as leaders and decision-makers. It is no coincidence that even as the most common cancer among women around the world is breast cancer, very little is still understood about its causes and the occupational and environmental hazards that could lead to cancer in women are woefully under-researched.

Given that a lack of understanding of how women are systematically disadvantaged when it comes to cancer care is at the root, measures that fill these gaps must be a priority, including the collection and updation of sociodemographic data in cancer health and more research on risks that impact women. Also needed is greater sensitivity and responsiveness to the challenges that lie at the intersections of power, status and identity by all stakeholders — right from institutions and policy — and decision-makers at the top to those who raise awareness and are involved in the treatment and care of the affected women.

TASTE OF TOGETHERNESS

IIT-Bombay's call for food segregation is a let-down, shrinks spaces for spontaneous inclusivity

MONTHS AFTER A canteen in IIT-Bombay exhibited posters declaring portions of the communal eating space off-bounds for non-vegetarian students, an email from the mess council has formalised its legitimacy: Six tables of a total of 80-100 will now only accommodate vegetarian diners. Of course, with the preponderance of *savarnas* among those who make it to these institutions, the vegetarian hegemony is not a new or unusual phenomenon across IITs. As early as 2014, the HRD ministry had sought proposals from the IITs and IIMs on having separate canteens for vegetarian and non-vegetarians students. In 2018, an IIT Madras canteen had designated different entrances wash basins and utensils for the two groups, which was later rescinded. Informal segregation has existed in other campuses of the premier institute.

The myth of India as a vegetarian nation has gained momentum since 2014, gathering heft with each vegetarian banquet that the central government hosts for visiting dignitaries and with the more vigilante enforcements that rear up ahead of festivals such as Navratri. But data tells a different story. The NFHS-5 showed that more people are eating non-vegetarian food than ever before. And yet, calls for food segregation at educational institutions persist, toying imaginations of caste purity.

In essence, academic institutions are meant to be level playing fields, a world that offers a first glimpse of who people can be when they are not circumscribed by families or communities. It allows them the liberty to be bewildered — at the diversities that exist in food and customs, rituals and sensibilities, clothes and ideas. A meal at a community table is a lesson in shearing off layers of prejudice. Lifetimes of friendship have been forged over wilful ignorance of what has gone into the delicious pulao in a friend's tiffin or the momo on the canteen menu that one was told to give a wide berth to. Perhaps, the gatekeepers of IIT-Bombay would do well to remember the unexpected joys of true inclusivity.

Man of science & humanity



ASHOK GULATI

Challenge is to honour MS Swaminathan's legacy, improve farmers' profitability in times of climate crisis

M S SWAMINATHAN is no more. But his legacy remains with every student and scientist of agriculture. He is most widely known for working with Norman Borlaug to usher in the Green Revolution in India in the mid-1960s when India was facing back-to-back droughts. Millions would have died of starvation if the country had not experienced the Green Revolution. India was already termed as a "ship to mouth" economy, as the country was importing 10 million tonnes from the US under P.L.480 scheme. And India had no foreign exchange to pay for it. I can recall the days when the then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri had given a call to the nation to "skip a meal in a week", and how wheat products, including wheat chapatis, would not be served at wedding parties.

It was at that time that Swaminathan worked hard to convince our political leadership to import 18,000 tonnes of seeds of high-yielding dwarf wheat varieties, Lerma Rojo and Sonora-64, from Mexico. This was the biggest seed shipment in history at that time. The seeds had to be indigenised to local conditions. With Kalyan Sona and Sonalika, the new indigenised wheat varieties, India changed its agriculture paradigm under Swaminathan's leadership. It was so inspiring that many people in the country, including me, named their children after these wheat varieties.

His contribution had a far-reaching impact. India experienced a wheat and rice revolution. This gave the country much-needed respite and confidence to turn the tables on food security in a short time. Who could believe that one day India will emerge as a significant exporter of cereals. In the last three years, 2020-21 to 2022-23, India exported 85 million tonnes of cereals contributing to global food security. Forty per cent of global

His contribution had a far-reaching impact. India experienced a wheat and rice revolution. This gave the country much-needed respite and confidence to turn the tables on food security in a short time. Who could believe that one day India will emerge as a significant exporter of cereals. In the last three years, 2020-21 to 2022-23, India exported 85 million tonnes of cereals contributing to global food security. Forty per cent of global exports come from India. The seeds of this transformation were sown by Swaminathan and his team of Indian agri-scientists, working closely with Norman Borlaug. They deserve all the credit and our gratitude.

exports come from India. The seeds of this transformation were sown by Swaminathan and his team of Indian agri-scientists, working closely with Borlaug. They deserve all the credit and our gratitude.

It is well known that Swaminathan was a geneticist as well as an administrator. He headed the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), and later became the Director General of the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines. He was rightly awarded the first World Food Prize in 1987, which incidentally was set up by Norman Borlaug, who had received the Nobel Peace Prize, as there is no Nobel Prize for Agriculture. Borlaug then set up an institution to recognise contributions to agriculture — the World Food Prize is a product of his endeavours. No wonder Swaminathan, who worked with him most closely, was the first recipient of the World Food Prize. Swaminathan was also conferred the Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan for his outstanding contributions. He also received several other awards like the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award and the Indira Gandhi Prize. Listing them all here in this obituary is simply not possible.

I had the privilege of visiting him at his home and sharing the dais with him on several occasions. One thing was clear: Even in his late 80s, Swaminathan was brimming with energy and inspired students and scientists alike. Most of them would surround him for selfies! And, he was always generous and smiling. The last time I saw him was perhaps in Pune, when he was wheelchair-bound and giving a power-point presentation to Sharad Pawar and Venkaiah Naidu. One could see the fire in his belly and his passion for agriculture. He was a hero who could

bring science and humanity together. With his demise, an era has come to an end.

I would be amiss if I didn't mention the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) which he chaired and submitted five reports from. His efforts to improve productivity and profitability in agriculture went beyond technology. One of NCF's key recommendations was to have minimum support prices (MSP) for farmers based on the cost of production plus 50 per cent return. The right cost later became a matter with different governments. One view was interpreting it as the comprehensive cost, which includes not only out-of-pocket expenses of farmers (Cost A2) but also imputed wages of family labour (FL), imputed rent on owned land and imputed interest on owned capital. The UPA government did not accept that. The NDA government went halfway and accepted at least a 50 per cent return over Cost A2+FL. But we still hear that market prices do go below even that in many parts of the country at harvest time. The government does not have the wherewithal to ensure that all those commodities get MSP. But it's also debatable to what extent the policy of restricting markets (export controls, stocking limit) for farmers is justified.

So, some dreams of Swaminathan remain unfulfilled — as with many of us. I am sure the younger generation would conduct more research not just in technologies to raise productivity but also on pricing policies to improve farmers' profitability. The challenge is bigger with climate change and depleting natural resources. May Swaminathan's inspiration guide us all.

The writer is Distinguished Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations



HARISH K PURI

EARLY IN HIS life, Bhagat Singh seemed to have been fascinated by the imagination of *vasudhaiva kutumbakam*, dreaming of the world as one family, bound by love and mutual respect. In an essay, 'Vishwa Prem', in the Hindi weekly *Matwala* in November 1924, he reflected upon the social and political challenges in the realisation of the dream. The theme of India's G20 presidency — *vasudhaiva kutumbakam* — makes it relevant to look into Bhagat Singh's thoughts on the subject on his birth anniversary, which was on Thursday.

The success in achieving a consensus in G20's joint declaration was hailed as the moment of India's rise on the world stage. It was also a moment of glory for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who reiterated that India's vision was "not just a slogan, but a comprehensive philosophy, derived from our cultural ethos." "The world is already taking note of India's human-centric model of development, an inclusive development, which guided the government's outlook within India and towards the world too," PM Modi said. Given the country's complex social and political realities, one cannot help but ask if the PM was really honest about such an egalitarian transformation in the outlook and politics of his government and party.

Bhagat Singh raised such a question in 'Vishwa Prem'. He asked: "Looking at the existing conditions, could anyone believe that such an imagined time will come." In several articles, he grappled with the problems of communalism, hatred and violence, oppression, poverty, untouchability and casteism. The reality, as he stated, was that "merely to belong to a religion is now considered enough reason to be the enemy of another religion." There should be no divi-

HIS VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM

Bhagat Singh's message of universalism is more relevant today

sion such as we have between touchable and untouchable, "but the Sanatan Dharma is in favour of this discrimination," Bhagat Singh said. Does this ring a bell?

Bhagat Singh elucidated his rational and critical approach in the essay, 'Why I am an Atheist'. He suspected, rightly, that several so-called social reformers took a superficial political position. He ridiculed stalwarts like Madan Mohan Malviya for not being honest about removing untouchability and asked: "Vey log jo 'vishavbandhuta' ka ghor naad kiya karte hain, kya vastav mein usey laaney ke ichhuk hain? (Do those who are beating the drums of universal brotherhood, really want to bring about such an order?)"

Today as we remember the great martyr, can we ignore the harsh reality that the Indian society is riven by communal and caste hatred, fear and violence? The corporate capitalist path of economic development has created more inequality in addition to the deeply entrenched inequality of caste. We have not paid heed to the sharp warning delivered by Babasaheb Ambedkar on November 25, 1949 — a day before the Constitution was adopted.

The fault lines in our country are deep. A vitriolic and provocative attack on Sanatan Dharma (not the Hindus) was made by a Tamil leader. A call was then given by the Prime Minister to prepare "to fight" such "forces" "who are pushing the country into a thousand years of slavery." These two actions point towards a condition of civil strife. So do the references by highly-placed leaders to "tukde tukde gangs" and calls like "*desh ke gaddaron ko*". We are witness to an uninhibited demonisation of the "other". The use of terms like "termites" for migrants, the inflammatory messages at a

Dharam Sansad of *sadhus* and *sants* and the impunity enjoyed by them raise doubts about the sincerity of our resolve towards *vasudhaiva kutumbakam*. Do we realise that the weaponisation of nationalism and the project of making India a Hindu Rashttra goes against the grand theme of G20?

To win over the hearts and minds of people who have diverse and conflicting interests, we need Gandhian dedication towards love, compassion and non-violence. The G20 declaration "deplored all acts of religious hatred" and asserted "it was time to end trust deficit and herald an era of cooperation". It's time to align lofty thoughts with practice on the ground.

Denouncing hypocrisy, Bhagat Singh wrote: "*Aye vishvbandhuta, vishvabandhuta, chillanewale! Kya tum uskey liye tayyar ho? Yadi nahin to aaj sey is dhong ko chhor do!*" (O' you who shout cries of world brotherhood! are you really determined to strive for that? If not, then stop this hypocrisy). Hypocrisy is said to be a tribute that vice pays to virtue.

After entering the new Parliament building on September 19, PM Modi declared: "We are starting a new chapter, we should forget all past bitterness." He said, "*Sirf dil chahiye, desh ke liye chahiye* (we should dedicate our hearts to the country)". If that could lead our government, leaders and the people to be honest and sincere, shedding hypocrisy and making a beginning towards *vasudhaiva kutumbakam*, it may be the most appropriate tribute to Bhagat Singh.

The writer is retired professor of political science and head, B R Ambedkar Chair, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar



SEPTEMBER 29, 1983, FORTY YEARS AGO

PLEA TO DISARM

PRIME MINISTER INDIRA Gandhi made an impassioned plea for complete disarmament and urged the creation of an "international order, where power is tempered with compassion, knowledge and capability are at the service of all humanity." She warned that the global situation had reached unprecedented crisis, with major powers stockpiling nuclear arms.

DISMAL IMF TERMS

INDIA LASHED OUT against "retrograde" steps like scaling down access to IMF facilities,

which, its delegation leader Manmohan Singh said, would only strengthen "contractionary impulses" in the world economy. Singh told the IMF and World Bank that India could not endorse the proposal for scaling down of present access limits because developing countries were already in a dismal situation.

THE DOGRA TREASURE

THERE IS A lot of mystery behind the disclosure of the treasure in the basement of the Kashmir government treasury. The treasure, a property of the Dogra rulers, is believed to be valued at Rs 1,000 crore and includes

priceless jewellery, rubies, emeralds and gold. It belongs to the toshkhana, which till 1948, was a personal department of the late Maharaja Hari Singh.

INDO-PAK TEST

A STUBBORN BUT chancy unbeaten 121 by opener Anshuman Gaekwad and his unbroken 70-run stand for the fifth wicket with Ravi Shastri (batting 21) failed to redeem a dull fourth day's play in the second Test between India and Pakistan. Replying to Pakistan's first Innings score of 337, India had crawled to 201 for four at the end of the day's play.

Parliament to workplace

Increased political representation of women can help loosen supply-side constraints to women's labour force participation



FARZANA AFRIDI

JUXTAPOSE TWO FACTS: First, India is among the countries in the world where women's representation in politics is the lowest. According to the Election Commission of India, women accounted for only 10.5 per cent of all members of Parliament in 2021, lower than in sub-Saharan Africa (26 per cent), and our neighbours such as Nepal (34 per cent) and Pakistan (20 per cent). Second, Indian women's engagement in the labour market (the labour force participation rate) is abysmally low at about 25 per cent, relative to the global average of almost 50 per cent (as per World Bank estimates). Only 11 countries such as Yemen, Iran and Iraq show lower female labour force participation rates than India. The recent landmark legislation mandating the reservation of a third of parliamentary and assembly seats for women is potentially a game changer for attaining gender equity in political voices in the country. But, does increased political representation of women also have implications for women's labour force participation? What are the channels through which women's participation in the political arena can translate into their economic empowerment?

As a first step, let's lay out the factors that have kept women's economic engagement low in India. The gendered division of labour within the household, which places a disproportionately high burden of domestic work on women; the social norms that emphasise marriage rather than careers for women; the lack of safety and perceived high risk of sexual violence compounded by an absence of reliable and safe public transport infrastructure that restricts women's physical mobility — have been highlighted as some of the more salient factors constraining women from supplying their labour. On the other hand, recent research points out that the ongoing structural shifts away from agriculture and changes in agricultural technology have pushed women out of farms — a sector that has historically accounted for the largest share of women's labour. The absence of alternative opportunities in the non-farm sector implies that these women drop out of the labour market entirely.

Increased political representation of women has some immediate implications for loosening the supply-side constraints to women's labour force participation in India — both directly and indirectly. Political reservation of women has a direct effect on making political and administrative careers for women more viable in the longer term. More women are likely to enter the political fray — potentially rising from engaging with local issues to a seat in the state and national legislature. Evidence from the reservation for women sarpanches in Gram Panchayats indicates that women political decision-makers are more likely to emphasise and prioritise issues that align with the preferences and concerns of the electorate — sanitation, education (anganwadis) and health. The resulting increased emphasis on the provision of such essential public services can potentially reduce women's time in the drudgery of daily domestic work (for example, collecting water, firewood, and child



C R Sasikumar

care) enabling them to take up productive work opportunities from within or outside the home. Similarly, if women political leaders vocalise concerns related to public safety and law and order, besides emphasising policies that bring a gender lens to urban infrastructure and transportation planning, it can potentially improve women's physical mobility and thereby access to work opportunities further away from their homes.

Women's reservation in Parliament and state legislatures is also likely to have indirect impacts on increasing women's labour supply in the longer term. Evidence from gender quotas in panchayats suggests that exposure to women political leaders weakens traditional gender stereotypes of their role in society and within the home. Greater public visibility of women creates a role model effect for younger women, raising their aspirations. They too can enter and be successful in male-dominated fields; and be decision-makers, and it is not just acceptable but also possible for women to have visibility outside the home. Quotas for women in assemblies and Parliament can amplify the visibility of women political leaders as policymakers, potentially raising the intrinsic value of having a girl child and thereby parental investments in their human capital — education, skills and health. An entirely new generation of women with not just higher aspirations but also the requisite credentials could then enter India's labour market.

Can increased political representation of women also influence the demand for women's labour in our economy, increasing the opportunities for "decent" work for women in the formal, non-farm sector?

Women's reservation in Parliament and state legislatures is also likely to have indirect impacts on increasing women's labour supply in the longer term. Evidence from gender quotas in panchayats suggests that exposure to women political leaders weakens traditional gender stereotypes of their role in society and within the home. Greater public visibility of women creates a role model effect for younger women, raising their aspirations.

There is much less empirical evidence available to provide a convincing answer to this question. However, extrapolating from what we know from quotas in Panchayats, women political leaders may be more amenable to introducing legislation that enforces gender parity in pay and work conditions in the formal sector, besides stressing policies that expand work opportunities for women in the manufacturing sector.

An anecdote from a senior woman bureaucrat summarises this issue well. She recalled that as a District Collector posted in central India in 1982, she would have weekly meetings at the district headquarters with the panchayat leaders (invariably men) on local issues facing them. On one of her occasional visits to a panchayat, she noticed that the village handpump had not been working for several months. This is a rather serious matter since this was the only source of drinking water, but one that concerned only the village women who trudged miles daily to collect water. The men who did not have to do this chore were oblivious to the issue and did not mention the breakdown of the handpump at all in their weekly interactions with the collector.

Needless to say, if women's political representation engenders heightened sensitivity and brings a gender perspective to everyday decision-making by policy-makers, it has the potential to transform not just the social but also the economic lives of India's women.

The writer is Professor of Economics at the Indian Statistical Institute (Delhi) and Head, Digital Labor and Women's Economic Empowerment Programme

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Will a Saudi-Israeli deal promise a viable Palestinian state, with a guaranteed right of return, no more settlements and East Jerusalem as its capital? If the Saudis can pull it off, hats off to them. But history points to a darker reality — that the Palestinian nightmare will likely continue..." — DAWN, PAKISTAN

Shrinking the safety net

Cuts in MNREGA budget, refusal to acknowledge problems with Aadhaar-based payment system, risk pushing rural workers into extreme poverty



ZERO HOUR

BY DEREK O'BRIEN

"My political instincts tell me that MNREGA should not be discontinued because it is a living memorial to your (Congress) failures. After so many years in power, all you were able to deliver is for a poor man to dig ditches a few days a month."

— Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Lok Sabha, February 2015.

THE PM BAD-MOUTHED previous governments on the floor of Parliament. But, now, even he has to acknowledge that MNREGA, with 26 crore workers on its rolls, is a key driver of alleviating poverty in rural India. In Parliament, the Union government was questioned on the reduction in the budget estimate of MNREGA from Rs 98,000 crore in FY 2022 to Rs 60,000 crore in 2023. The government answered that MNREGA is a demand-driven employment scheme and the ministry seeks additional funds only when it is required to meet the demand for work on the ground. Is the Union Government suggesting there is a lack of demand for MNREGA in the country?

MNREGA as a safety net: The job market is facing a major crisis, with the unemployment rate hovering around 8 per cent. MNREGA has been pivotal in providing employment opportunities to rural households, especially landless labourers, minorities and women, working as a shield against a life of penury.

The Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers reveals that 40 per cent of Indian farmers do not consider farming to be their principal source of income and stated that they dislike farming as a profession. Farmers are more likely to transition from farming to rural non-farm (RNF) jobs to mitigate the risks associated with agriculture.

Decline in real wages: According to NSSO, RNF employment can be classified into manufacturing, construction, wholesale and retail trade, and other services. Studies reveal that it is the construction sector which is acting as one of the major drivers of RNF employment since 2011-12. The latest data from the Centre for Labour Research and Action reveals that the growth rate of real wages in the construction sector between 2014-15 and 2021-22 was less than 1 per cent per year (even negative in some years) which raises concerns about the type of employment generated within the RNF sector.

NSSO further defines the type of employment that the RNF generates under three broad categories such as self-employment, regular salaried employment and casual wage employment. In India there has been a decline in self-employment and a gradual shift towards casual wage employment which is non-agricultural wage labour driven by the construction sector. The transition from agricultural to non-agricultural employment aligns with the latest findings in the RBI's Handbook of Statistics of Indian States. The gradual shift in employment from wage labour in the agricultural sector to non-agricultural wage labour in rural areas is explained by the significant decline

in real agricultural wages.

Institutional barriers: A scheme such as MNREGA, which provides regular salaried employment to rural households, is a choice between starvation and work stability for landless people. Currently, problems relating to the number of workdays going down from 100 to 31 days, along with poor administrative rationing of jobs among job seekers, and delays in wage payments act as institutional barriers for the rural poor.

Decisions such as using the National Monitoring System App to monitor attendance and Aadhaar-based payment system (ABPS), when nearly 11 crore (40 per cent) workers do not possess Aadhaar-linked bank accounts, have further pushed the rural poor into extreme vulnerability. However, the Union government does not even acknowledge the problem associated with ABPS. In reply to a question in Parliament, the government stated that no workers have been denied wage payment due to ABPS and it is neither open to technical glitches nor prone to misuse.

The latest Periodic Labour Force Survey report states that agriculture continues to remain the largest employer of the rural workforce. This implies that the mobility of the workforce from the rural agrarian sector to the RNF sector has failed. Rural households often consider the RNF casual wage employment as a last resort for their survival. That is why it is essential to strengthen MGNREGA and end the perpetual cycle of casual wage employment and extreme poverty faced by workers.

Economic blockade of states: One of the key schemes which relies on Union-state synergy is MNREGA. States run by non-BJP governments have been penalised by the Union government, which creates an economic blockade.

In the 2021-22 fiscal, West Bengal topped the list of states in terms of the number of people employed under the scheme (over one crore) and in terms of person days generated (36 crore). However funds to the state have been stopped by the Union government under extended imposition of Section 27 of MNREGA since December 2021. This, in spite of all compliances being met.

The Union government owes Bengal a whopping Rs 7,000 crore owed to MNREGA. Data tabled in Parliament reveals the drastic fall in employment since the embargo of funds; the number of person days generated has shrunk to three crore, one-twelfth of what it was. Unfairly stopping wages leads to victimisation of workers and may push them to the brink of starvation. The state government has been funding the scheme from its own budget for the rural poor. Persons with job cards have also been subsumed into work under state government schemes.

The Union government has also withheld over Rs 8,000 crore owed to Bengal under the PM Awas Yojana (Grameen); over one million people have been deprived of housing benefits.

After letters and countless reminders have failed, a contingent of MPs and other ministers from the state will be in Delhi on Gandhi Jayanti. A satyagraha at Raj Ghat and other demonstrations have been lined up. Rightful wages under MNREGA have been denied to 1.4 crore workers in Bengal. Is anybody listening?

The writer is Member of Parliament and Leader, All India Trinamool Congress Parliamentary Party (Rajya Sabha). Additional research by Mallika Bhowmick



SRI SRI RAVI SHANKAR

THE CENTRE OF every culture is love; the very core of humanity is love. Harmony in sound is music. Harmony in movement is dance. Harmony in mind is meditation. Harmony in life is a celebration! And, culture through art, music, dance, food, and dress is the thread that can weave harmony in a community.

Our knowledge and communication are growing, while our world is shrinking. We have no other choice than to honour diversity. It is now a necessity, not an option. In a world with rapid advancements in science and technology, a bigger spotlight must be thrown on culture. Every culture is a part of the world heritage and we have to preserve and protect all of them, if we want humanity to survive. This alone can bring a well-balanced development in the world. We need to water our cultural roots and broaden our vision to include one and all.

The polarisation and mistrust in the world today call for a humanistic approach, one that includes the well-being of all. This can only happen when every child knows a little about the wisdom from different cultures. Then the world would be a happier and more peaceful place. A sign of evolution is when we feel that all cultures, all civilisations, and all the different schools of philosophy, truly belong to us.

Now is the time to expand our vision, and

A larger we

It is time that we bring down the walls between cultures and civilisations

our sense of purpose and connect to something bigger. Now is the time to recognise the universality of human values across cultures. Now is also the time to acknowledge what is unique to each culture and country. It is time to celebrate the differences.

You love to have food from every part of the world. You listen to music from all over the world. You don't need to be a person of Chinese origin in order to eat Chinese food. You don't need to be an Italian to go to a pizzeria and eat pizzas, nor a Danish to eat Danish cookies. One doesn't have to be an Indian to listen to bhajans or sitar music. Similarly, we need to learn to accept knowledge and wisdom from every part, and this is what has been lacking in the world.

We have to preserve our ability to assimilate all the cultures.

Unfortunately, prejudice stemming from limited understanding has been the greatest impediment to embracing diversity. The problem is one of limited and fragmented identification that has led to the proliferation of hatred, violence and war. Many are willing to go to extreme lengths to protect this identity, at the cost of humanity. We need to bring about an understanding in all people that they are, firstly, part of the universal spirit, and, secondly, human. Fanaticism fails to recognise that the di-

vine loves variety and diversity; and that many different schools of thought can coexist in this world. The only way to get rid of fanaticism in the world is through spiritual education that is broad-based, multicultural and multireligious; that which creates a reverence for diversity in nature. It is when a child grows up considering other religions or cultures as bad or with the notion that my idea of God is the only idea of God, that he or she is ready to give up his or her life for that cause; but when a child grows up learning a little bit about all other religions, cultures and customs, then there is a sense of belonging with everybody. I feel that when every child in the world learns a little bit about every other religion or culture, the child will not have inhibitions or hatred towards other religions or cultures.

You have to communicate and embrace people from all communities and diverse cultures and religions as your own and celebrating each other's cultures and practices is a beautiful way to make that communication happen.

Spirituality has always united people of all cultures and religions — it helps one transcend the differences to find common ground. It is the quality of the spirit that makes you more alive and beautiful: when the spirit gets uplifted, the body becomes

stronger and free from disease; the mind is more focused and energised; the intellect is free from prejudice; and love blossoms in every heart. When the mind is open and the heart is free, hate cannot exist there.

When people come together in an atmosphere of togetherness and love, prejudices disappear. It is the starting point for any powerful transformation to take place in society. From regional consciousness to national and then to universal consciousness, this is the growth that the human race is looking for.

Today it is said "Sanghe Shakti Kaliyuge" — the power in this age lies in coming together. When many bristles are put together to make a broom, they are far more effective in sweeping a large hall than they would have been individually. If we move together, we can do something big.

It is time that we bring down the walls between cultures and civilisations across the world and recognise that we are a one-world family and come together in a spirit of celebration, spirit of love, compassion, and serving.

The writer is a spiritual leader and founder of the Art of Living Foundation, which is holding a three-day World Culture Festival at the National Mall in Washington DC from September 29 to October 1

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CREATE BETTER JOBS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The employment puzzle' (IE, September 28). GDP growth is important for economic development, but it is not the only factor. India has the world's largest youth population, and this demographic dividend presents an opportunity for significant economic growth. However, the government must develop the formal sector to create suitable jobs for educated youth. Proper implementation of the NEP 2020 can equip young people with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in today's technologically advanced economy. The government should also support entrepreneurial programs and foster self-resilience and growth among youth.

Zaid Wazi, Varanasi

NO CREDIBLE REASON

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Who's afraid of elections?' (IE, September 28). Is the Modi government pushing its One Nation, One Election agenda justified? The former election commissioner has meticulously explained that in the absence of credible data for issues like expenditure, diversion of staff and disruption

tion of developmental work, which are raised for justifying simultaneous elections, the ONEE idea lacks credence. In the last nine years, it has neither shown any inclination nor taken any measures towards reducing election expenditure by candidates or parties. On the contrary, the BJP has acquired more funds and spent more on elections than its rivals.

I.R Murmu, New Delhi

INEQUALITY PERSISTS

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Numbers that matter, and don't' (IE, September 28). The genuine progress of a country's economy should be reflected in the quality of life enjoyed by its average citizens, rather than the aggregate value of its GDP. Even if we congratulate ourselves on being the fifth largest economy in the world, when it comes to per capita income and Human Development Index (HDI), we rank 128th and 132nd respectively. Moreover, what real benefit would a rise in GDP bring to common people if the increase in their income is not proportional to inflation? The fact that our government still provides free monthly rations to over 80 crore individuals speaks volumes about our economy.

Kamal Laddha, Bengaluru



FESTIVE FERVOUR

Girgaon Chowpatti swarmed by devotees on the last day of Ganesh Chaturthi, in Mumbai on Thursday. *Amit Chakravarty*

2 Odisha MLAs throw ‘dal’ at Speaker podium, suspended

SUJIT BISOIY
BHUBANESWAR, SEPT 28

THE ODISHA Assembly on Thursday suspended two BJP MLAs—Mohan Charan Majhi (Keonjhar) and Mukesh Mahaling (Loisingha)—for the rest of the monsoon session after they allegedly threw ‘dal’ towards the Speaker’s podium.

The two legislators, however, denied that they threw ‘dal’ at the Speaker Pramila Mallik’s podium. Mahaling said they presented ‘dal’ to the Speaker and didn’t throw it.

On what was the rationale behind “presenting” ‘dal’ to the Speaker, Mahaling said Mallik had resigned as the women and child development minister in 2011 in the wake of a Rs 700-crore scam in the purchase of pulses for mid-day-meal scheme.

Farmers start 3-day rail roko across Punjab to press for their demands

RAAKHI JAGGA
LUDHIANA, SEPTEMBER 28

FARMERS DEMANDING a financial package for losses caused by recent floods and a legal guarantee for MSP among others began a three-day rail blockade Thursday at 12 locations in Punjab.

The rail roko is being organised by 19 farmer unions from six North Indian states to seek the implementation of their demands. Out of the six farmers’ unions from Punjab, the main organisation is the Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee (KMSC), which has received support from the unions of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan.

Among their main demands are a Rs 50,000 crore flood relief package for flood victims in affected North Indian states, an MSP guarantee law, 300 days of em-

ployment under MGNREGA, and control of drug addiction, especially in Punjab.

According to Satnam Singh Pannu, president, KMSC, they are blocking trains at Moga, Hoshiarpur, Gurdaspur, and Batala railway stations in Gurdaspur, Jalandhar Cantonment in Jalandhar, Tarn Taran railway station in Tarn Taran, Sunam in Sangrur, Nabha in Patiala, Basti Tankwali and Mallanwala in Firozpur, Rampura in Bathinda, and Devidaspura in Amritsar.

From the 16 farmer unions from six states, their number has risen to 19, said Sarwan Singh Pandher, who is from KMSC and is the convener of the 19 farmers unions. Pandher was at Devidaspura in Amritsar where farmers are squatting on the tracks until September 30.

Farmers from Haryana, Rajasthan, and Himachal Pradesh are also marching towards Punjab

to sit on tracks along with their counterparts in the state.

Suresh Koth, president, Kisan Mazdoor Union of Haryana, said, “We were to start the protest on August 22 in Chandigarh but much before that the Punjab Police arrested over 400 farm union leaders from Punjab and Haryana to prevent us from reaching Chandigarh. Not only this, one farmer Pritam Singh had also been crushed under the tyres of a tractor in the Longowal area of Sangrur district of Punjab when farmers were on their way to a toll plaza to protest”.

Koth was referring to the scuffle between protesting farmers and the police on August 21 in Longowal when Pritam Singh was killed. Koth said, “We are warning the Punjab government not to mess with us again, they need to remember that Punjab farmers are not alone but their Haryana brothers are with them”.

Mob of ‘500-600’ tries to storm Manipur CM’s private residence

SUKRITA BARUAH
GUWAHATI, SEPTEMBER 28

AMID HEIGHTENED tensions in Manipur’s valley areas, a group of people attempted to storm Chief Minister N Biren Singh’s personal residence at Heingang in Imphal East on Thursday night. The CM and his family were not there at the time.

By around 10.30 pm, the attempt was foiled by security personnel. A security official said the crowd initially numbered “around 500-600”, and added that RAF personnel present at the site deployed retaliatory force. The crowd was dispersed before it could enter the premises. Heingang, where Singh’s personal residence is located, is the Assembly constituency that he represents.

The state’s Meitei-dominated valley areas have been on edge, and have seen intense, widespread protests since Tuesday. The protests came after two photographs were circulated that seemed to show two Meitei youngsters—Hijam Linthoingami (17) and Phijam Hemjit (20)—who had been missing since July 6, were killed by militants.

On Wednesday, protesting students tried to march towards the CM Bungalow and Raj Bhavan. Security personnel had resorted to heavy tear gas shelling to disperse them, but representatives of the students were allowed to meet the Governor and the Chief Minister. Later that afternoon, a mob torched the BJP Khongjom Mandal office in Thoubal district.

Meanwhile, the Centre has ordered the repatriation of Manipur-cadre officer Rakesh Balwal currently serving as Senior Superintendent of Police, Srinagar. The 2012-batch officer was on deputation in J&K under the AG-MUT cadre.



Students protest against the killing of two youngsters, in Imphal on Thursday. *PTI*

As protesting students end up in hospitals, security forces face heat

SUKRITA BARUAH
GUWAHATI, SEPTEMBER 28

FROM 60 foreign particles lodged in a 17-year-old’s shoulder to eye damage that could lead to another teenager losing his vision—these are among injuries sustained in the last few days by those protesting against the killing of two Meitei students. The nature of wounds has led to allegations of use of excessive force by security personnel against protesters, largely students, in Manipur’s capital Imphal and valley areas.

In response, Manipur DGP Rajiv Singh Thursday constituted a two-member committee headed by IGP (Adm) K Jayanta Singh to look into such complaints and allegations and submit a report.

The state’s Meitei-dominated valley areas have been on edge since Tuesday, after two photographs surfaced indicating that

two youngsters—Hijam Linthoingami (17) and Phijam Hemjit (20)—who had gone missing since July 6 have been killed. Their last phone location was traced to Churachandpur.

Schools were shut and mobile internet services suspended once again as hundreds of students hit the streets in protest, while the police and CAPF, including RAF and Assam Rifles, were called in to control the situation.

The face-off has left many injured. Among them is 17-year-old L Kishan—on Wednesday, photos had emerged showing the top of his right shoulder torn off. Doctors operated on him and removed 60 small particles of foreign body from the injured area. A forensic examination can reveal the nature of these, we cannot comment on it as of now,” said an official from Imphal’s Shija Hospital.

Another patient at the same hospital is another Johnson, also 17. “He may lose vision in his right eye. It is grievously injured

—whether by splinter, rubber bullet, or something else, we cannot ascertain... We have not operated on his eye... We are waiting for a neurosurgeon’s consent to proceed with the surgery,” said the hospital official.

On Thursday afternoon, another youth who had been injured, Uttam Soibam (17), underwent surgery at Raj Medicity. X-ray images showed dozens of “foreign particles” lodged in his skull.

An official at Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal, said they had received 14 patients with injuries. “Of these, four had injuries with pellets lodged near the eye or the chest... None of them were very major injuries and all have been discharged,” he said.

The injuries sustained by minors also prompted the Manipur Commission for Protection of Child Rights to issue an appeal that the strategies used to control young protests should differ from those applied to adults.

FROM PUNJAB TO KERALA, M S SWAMINATHAN’S GROUNDBREAKING WORK TRANSFORMED LIVES OF MILLIONS, ENSURED INDIA’S FOOD SECURITY

Swaminathan’s indelible mark in Odisha

SUJIT BISOIY
BHUBANESWAR, SEPT 28

AGRICULTURAL SCIENTIST M S Swaminathan, who passed away on Thursday at the age of 98, had a strong association with Odisha—over the past two decades, his organisation, the M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), has actively worked in Koraput district’s Jeypore region. After completing his PhD from Cambridge University, Swaminathan had joined the Cuttack-based Central Rice Research Centre, a unit of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

MSSRF’s regional centre, the Biju Patnaik Tribal Agrobiodiversity Centre at Jeypore, helps tribal farmers protect their intellectual property rights. “Professor’s (as Swaminathan is referred to) guidance and values will always remain our guiding light. Koraput had a special place in his heart. Wherever he went, he mentioned Koraput and its rich biodiversity,” Prasant Kumar Parida, director, BPTAbC, told *The Indian Express*. Swaminathan had last visited BPTAbC in 2011.

Swaminathan also worked in mangrove restoration and preservation of coastal land in Kendrapara district of Odisha for around 12 years beginning 1994.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik also recalled his association with Odisha, saying that Dr Swaminathan started his early days of research in the state and was always available to help its farmers in every possible manner. “His foundation is closely associated in improving farming activities in tribal areas of Odisha. His death has created a huge void in the field of agricultural science,” said Patnaik.

Jeypore was once known to be the home of the largest number of rice varieties in India, which were vanishing fast. Concerned about this, the MSSRF undertook research in 1998 to improve the condition of farmers while revitalising the vanishing rice varieties.

The MSSRF has also been working on conservation of biodiversity, promotion of sustainable livelihoods through micro-level interventions, and establishment of community-managed gene, seed, grain and water banks.

Kerala’s Mankombu – a farming village inextricably linked to M S Swaminathan by name and familial ties

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, SEPTEMBER 28

AS RENOWNED agricultural scientist Mankombu Sambasivan Swaminathan came to be regarded as the father of India’s Green Revolution, a small village in Kerala saw its name gaining wide recognition.

Swaminathan, who died in Chennai on Thursday at the age of 98, carried Mankombu village in his name. His father M K Sambasivan Iyer was born in this village, where a few members of their family, known as the Kottaram family, continue to live.

The village is in Alappuzha district and is part of the Kuttanad region, known as Kerala’s rice bowl. Before Swaminathan’s birth in 1925, his father left the village of paddy fields to go to Kumbakonam, in what was then

the Madras Presidency, to work as a general medical practitioner. He was the first doctor from his family, which belonged to the Tamil Brahmin community. The Kottaram family was originally from Kumbakonam, before they settled down in Mankombu and took up farming.

“In those days, we were farmers with large tracts of land, including paddy fields. After Sambasivan obtained his medical degree, he wanted to move out. He had five other siblings, and each one then looked for their own professional turf,” recalled M K Parameswaran, a member of the Kottaram family.

In Kumbakonam, Sambasivan led a mosquito eradication mission, and went on to become the city’s first municipal chairman.

Swaminathan was born in Kumbakonam, but when he was just 11 years old, he lost his father. He was then brought up by his fa-



M S Swaminathan’s father M K Sambasivan Iyer was born in Mankombu. A few members of the family still live here. *Express*

ther’s youngest brother M K Narayanaswami, who had also moved to Kumbakonam after studying radiology.

Swaminathan maintained a strong relationship with Mankombu village, and retained close ties with his relatives who lived there.

The house where his father was born, a traditional nalukettu

structure, still stands in the village. The family still has a stake in paddy cultivation in the region, and Swaminathan too had a share in his ancestral property. On his visits to Mankombu, he lived with his relatives.

His family’s legacy in the village also includes a temple that was later handed over to the Devaswom Board, and a school

Jaunti, where seed of Green Revolution was sown, remembers agriculture icon

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

FAR FROM Chennai, where M S Swaminathan passed away on Thursday, Northwest Delhi’s Jaunti village remembers the agricultural scientist for having brought the ‘Green Revolution’ to it first.

High-yielding varieties of wheat were first planted in 1964 on around 70 acres in the village, which lies close to the national capital’s border with Haryana. “He was a gentle, hardworking man, who did good for us and for the world,” said Hukum Singh Chhikara, who was among the farmers on whose land the wheat was first sown. On Thursday, he had not heard yet of Swaminathan’s death.

Rammehar Singh, 93, whose father Chaudhary Bhoop Singh, was also among the first farmers from Jaunti to have the high-yielding variety sown in his field, said, “*Gehun se bhar diya desh ko*. And he chose our village to begin with. Farmers from other places would come here to buy seeds, and a lot was sold at that time.”



The seed processing centre is now a Delhi government dispensary. *Express*

In 1965, the Jawahar Jounti Seed Cooperative Society was set up and the farmers who were a part of it sold wheat seeds.

Swaminathan having got Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to the village in 1967 to inaugurate a seed-processing centre of the cooperative society is also a matter of pride, said Master Radh Singh, 73. “He would visit the village almost every year,” said Singh. The seed-processing centre is now a Delhi government dispensary, a fading board marking its history.

For Om Prakash Chhikara, the grandson of Chaudhary Bhoop Singh, Swaminathan felt like family. “He has given a lot to the village. With the new varieties, the yield shot up and so did prosperity,” said Om Prakash, a retired school teacher whose family owns 16 acres of land.

Arya Kuldeep, 60, who owns around 14 acres of land, said, “Our village is known because of Dr Swaminathan. The ‘Green Revolution’ began here and his work is still a matter of discussion among those of my generation and those who are older.”

In the years since, much has changed. Amarjeet Chhikara, 52, the son of Khazan Singh who was also among the first farmers to have the wheat grown on his land, said, “A canal used to bring water to irrigate the fields then and the area was very fertile. The canal has stopped bringing water, and groundwater levels here are low. People here are now moving towards jobs, taking the focus away from agriculture. Since the administration doesn’t focus much on agriculture, we don’t get much in terms of subsidies or implements.”



An undated photo of Nobel laureate Norman Ernest Borlaug and M S Swaminathan. *Photo credit MSSRF*



Since the sculpture was installed in 2019, thousands of farmers have visited it, said Manjit Singh Gill. *Express*

He was everything for us, says farmer who erected the scientist’s sculpture in his field

DIVYA GOYAL GOPAL
LUDHIANA, SEPTEMBER 28

IN 2019, farmer and sculptor Manjit Singh Gill erected a sculpture in his field at Ghal Kala village in Punjab’s Moga district. Since then, thousands of farmers from different parts of the state have visited the field to see and take selfies with it in a mark of respect for the sculpture’s subject—Dr M S Swaminathan.

The legendary agricultural scientist, known as the father of India’s Green Revolution, died on Thursday at the age of 98. Gill (48) remembered Swaminathan, whom he never met, as someone who “actually thought about us more than anyone did. He gave away his entire life thinking how the life of farmers can be improved, how they can be given what they deserve”.

“For us farmers, he was our everything. Though farmers in Punjab knew him by name since his report (widely known as Swaminathan report) is always cited in every matter related to farming and agriculture... Hence, I have paid this unique tribute to him by installing his statue in my village,” Gill said, adding, “Since the sculpture was installed, thousands of farmers have visited it”.

The sculpture depicted Swaminathan as a farmer’s true friend, standing next to a Sikh farmer with one hand placed gently on his shoulder and the other holding a copy of the National

Commission on Farmers report—better known as the Swaminathan Report—released in 2006. Behind the sculpture is a board that details the main recommendations of the report. “During election time, all political parties talk about implementing the Swaminathan Commission report, but nobody actually does. Do you know what the Swaminathan Report really is? And how can farmers benefit from it?” it asks readers.

“Ask any farmer, he will tell you about the Swaminathan Report without knowing what it really is. All they know is that it put forward the suggestion for the minimum support prices of crops to be at least 50 per cent more than the cost of production...,” Gill said.

On the reason behind his decision to erect the sculpture, Gill said, “I decided to do this after seeing my 70-year-old father, who has spent his lifetime tilling the fields, not being able to recognise the person whose report and work as a scientist has made such a difference to our lives. My father did not even know what Swaminathan *saab* looked like. Many people here thought he was a turbaned man who wears a dhoti,” Gill added.

Responding to Gill’s tribute, Swaminathan had told *The Indian Express* in 2019: “Please convey my best wishes to this Punjab farmer.” He also gave some advice: “The groundwater situation in the state isn’t good. Free electricity should be avoided, as it promotes excessive pumping of water.”

INDIA SQUAD

Pocket of tricks, Axar injury help Ashwin break into team

VENKATA KRISHNAB
SEPTEMBER 28

RAVICHANDRAN ASHWIN has replaced Axar Patel in India's World Cup squad as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) sent its updated list of players to the International Cricket Council on Thursday. The Indian Express understands that Axar, who suffered a quadriceps injury during the Asia Cup, will take another couple of weeks before he resumes bowling and following discussions with the team management, the selectors decided to include Ashwin, who alongside Virat Kohli, will play his second World Cup on home soil and third overall. Although the injury to Axar has made the switch easy, India have been keeping their tabs open on Ashwin. Even when the selectors met the team management that includes skipper Rohit Sharma and head coach Rahul Dravid before naming the squads for Asia Cup and World Cup, Ashwin's name was discussed at length as they felt an off-spinner will be needed in home conditions.

When Ashwin was included for the three ODIs against Australia, it was evident that India were looking to bring him into the squad, more so because all the three spinners they picked were left-armers.

"Ashwin has the class, he's got experience of playing the sport and handling the pressure. It's just that he hasn't played ODIs for a year or so. But you cannot take away the class and the experience that the individual has over the years," Rohit said in Rajkot. "In the last couple of games (against Australia), we saw how well he bowled. He's got a lot of variations up his sleeves," he added.

It is understood that even as early as July, the Indian team management was in touch with Ashwin, who featured in the Tamil Nadu Premier League and First Division matches in Chennai. By the time the Asia Cup commenced, an SOS was sent to Ashwin to report at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru, where the trained for a few weeks to get into the white-ball groove. Although Ashwin has played only seven ODIs since the 2017 Champions Trophy final, a period where India shifted their allegiance towards wrist-spinners in limited-overs format, he has featured in each of the last two white-ball ICC events for India in the T20 World Cups in the UAE and Australia.

While Axar is unfortunate to miss out, as his batting would be badly missed, there were always question marks around his place in the squad especially with Ravindra Jadeja around. With Kuldeep Yadav being their lead spinner in the format, in case India decide to play three spinners, accommodating both Jadeja and Axar would have rendered the attack one-dimensional. In a format where teams seek edge in every department, fielding two left-arm spinners could a handicap in limited-overs.

AUSTRALIA SQUAD

Labuschagne, injured Head make the cut

Melbourne: Marnus Labuschagne broke into the 15-member squad at the last possible moment on the back of his strong recent form while injured opener Travis Head was also included. Labuschagne had been left out of the provisional squad but strong displays in South Africa and India forced his recall. Head is set to miss early matches after breaking his hand in SA but was included in place of left-arm spinner Ashton Agar. REUTERS

Squad: Pat Cummins (captain), Sean Abbott, Alex Carey, Cameron Green, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Marnus Labuschagne, Mitchell Marsh, Glenn Maxwell, Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc, Marcus Stoinis, David Warner, Adam Zampa

As the World Cup caravan is set to roll, a question arises: **How does a place and its social milieu shape a cricketer and influence their game?** Could Virat Kohli have been the same player were he born in Guwahati East and not in West Delhi? Or what would have happened to Kuldeep Yadav had he been from Colaba in Mumbai? We find out over the next few days



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

Kanpur's chalaak Chinaman

Like the sharp-tongued and quick-witted vibe of his city, Kuldeep Yadav embodies the smarts and con of Kanpur. His targeting of a batsman in company of his teammates has the guile and humour of his home town's favourite pastime - *Chikayi*

SANDEEP DWIVEDI

WELL-KNOWN political cartoonist Manjul is in the business of unpeeling complex national issues to their basic core with subtle and cutting humour. He left the place of his birth, Kanpur, in the 1990s. But despite the parting, distance and the decades, the chaotic city with an unfair share of comics and wry one-liners continues to influence his work.

Manjul likes to talk about his city and its character that is true to the region's rail route - it's between Delhi and Lucknow. "We are not overly polite like Lucknow, nor as brash as Delhi. Kanpur's humour has humility. It isn't too direct or toxic, it is..." he trails off, searching for the right English word.

Eventually, it is Kanpur's lovingly-preserved lexicon that comes handy. "Our favourite pastime is something called *Chikayi*, it sums up our self-deprecating city of closed mills, load-shedding and traffic jams where humour helps one to survive," he says.

Chikayi isn't bullying. It broadly means 'leg-pulling' but even that doesn't capture the nuance of the banter and repartee heard at Kanpur's many gumtis - small kiosks lining a marketplace - where every evening some poor pre-decided target faces the sarcastic barbs of many. The bakra of the day cornered

at an adda.

The other day during the Asia Cup, the pitch in Colombo had the feel of a Kanpur gumti with the boy - Kuldeep Yadav - from the city leading the *Chikayi*. He had for company wicketkeeper KL Rahul, close-in fielders Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Shubhman Gill and Ishan Kishan. Their target that evening were the Lankan batsmen.

Kuldeep is a rarest of rare bowler. Left-arm spinners mostly use their fingers. They are called orthodox. A few, like Kuldeep, use their wrists. His repertoire is extensive, each of his stock balls has many versions and variations. He mixes his balls, plays with the mind of the batsmen. Like the sharp-tongued and quick-witted people from his hometown, 'Kuldeep the bowler' can be trusted to come up with a stinging retort. If a batsman plays a booming drive through extra-cover, the counter would be a mean turner, disguised as a loopy delivery pitched outside the right-hander's off-stump that would shut him up for the day.

At the Asia Cup game against Sri Lanka, India needed a win to confirm a place in the final. At the crease was the dangerous Sadeera Samarawickrama. When Kuldeep came on to bowl, some-

thing seemed to be cooking. Rahul put his arm around the left-arm spinner. They seemed to be hatching a conspiracy.

In the next over, Kuldeep, bowling from over the wicket, would amble close to the stumps. Inside his cocked wrist, hard-wired to his ever-ticking brain, he hid the ball. He unleashed his takia kalaam, his catchline - the well-flighted ball outside off that was pregnant with possibilities.

The previous ball, Samarawickrama, while rooted to the crease, had looked shaky while defending a turning ball. Kuldeep knew the batsman would dance down the track. He did.

It is a folly. By the time he realises it, it's too late. Kuldeep has cut down the pace and dropped the ball short. Rahul stumps Samarawickrama, the fielders cackle. This was leg-

pulling of the cricketing type, this was *Chikai*. Kuldeep had that trademark naughty grin on his face. This World Cup, India would join the adda, they are hoping to cackle when Kuldeep smiles.

Subtle art

Kanpur's Chinaman is expressive but temperamentally very different from his role model - the great Shane Warne. They used to call the late Aussie legend Hollywood, he loved drama.

Strikingly blonde hair, larger-than-life persona; with Warne you knew danger was always lurking around. Kuldeep doesn't hype his skills, he doesn't come with a forewarning. That's again a Kanpur trait. Arguments here are won by subtle and smart turns of phrase and a sly sally.

Over the years, Kanpur, in its obsession with one-upmanship, has ended up glorify the cunning and the con.

The city's most famous sweet shop goes by the name of *Thaggu ke Laddu* and prides itself on cheating even their relatives. *Aisa koi sagaa nahi, jisko humne thagaa nahi*, is their tagline. National award-winning film *Katiyabaaz* is about the country's load-shedding capital's hack of stealing electricity. Bollywood's hat tip to the city was *Bunty aur Babli*, a movie about a con couple directed by local boy Shaad Ali.

Much before Kuldeep, Kanpur had Gopal Sharma, the OG. A cricketer of the 1980s, he played over 100 first-class games, but just five Tests. In his hometown, he is a living legend. When Sharma played Tests, cartoonist Manjul was a young man. He recalls the off-spinner's popularity. "He was a local hero. People would say, 'Look, the shop, that's where Gopal Sharma gets his milk from'," says Manjul.

Sharma, 63 now, is in the habit of saying 'Bilkul, bikul' whenever he wholeheartedly agrees with anyone. Did Kanpur influence your game? Is it because of the city you were known as a chalaak spinner? "Bilkul, Bilkul," he answers promptly.

Sharma's 'chalaaki' was seen in his variation, the ball that went away. This was much before the word 'doosra' was coined. "Back in the day, it was called 'leg-cutter', in Uttar Pradesh we would call it 'ulti'. It would be bowled with the same action like an off-spinner but would go away from the right-hander," he says.

He gives a short precise explanation of his special ball. "For the ulti, I would use my wrist, not my finger. The spinning finger would not be used at all but the wrist would give a tweak and the ball would float and go the other way," he says. Does Kuldeep have the same chalaaki? "*Bilkul, bikul*". Does his bowling have a bit of Kanpur in him? "Bilkul, bikul, bikul, bikul ..."

They say it is the city that makes a man, Manjul says it's more localised. He shares a couplet by late Pramod Tiwari, a reputed Kanpur poet, to make his point. "*Mere ghar ke aage jo mod hai, meri zindagi ka nichod hai, use hai pata mai kidhar gaya, mai jidhar gaya woh wahan gaya*," he says.

Paraphrasing Tiwari, it would translate to: It's the immediate surroundings, the turn that takes you home, that define one's core character. Life's journey can take one places but the turn never leaves you. Kanpur's serpentine lanes and sharp turns foster cleverness and one-upmanship. Cricket keeps Kuldeep far away from home but his turn gives him company, it reflects in his skill and spin.

STATE ATHLETICS MEET FIASCO

Why Delhi athletes dope: Govt jobs, college admissions, Rs 16 lakh 'assistance'

ANDREW AMSAN
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

A CHANCE to get an annual "financial assistance" of up to Rs 16 lakh, college admissions and job opportunities - these are the incentives on offer at the Delhi State Athletics Championship. However, if a beneficiary fails a dope test, he/she will have to return the funds received from the Delhi government in the past.

This explains the hide-and-seek between athletes and National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) officials at the state meet at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium earlier this week.

As reported by *The Indian Express*, the sudden appearance of anti-doping officials on Tuesday, the final day of the event, resulted in mass withdrawal of athletes - only one sprinter turned up for the men's 100 metres final; the Under-20 boys' 100m final saw just three finalists; and the Under-16 boys' hammer throw event too had just one participant.

A steeplechaser kept running after crossing the finish line, trying to scoot out of the stadium before being caught by a dope-testing official, and many of the winners didn't even show up for the medal ceremony.

A doping athlete at a Delhi meet has the chance of qualifying for the national level, where if one finishes among the top eight, they become eligible for the big financial assistance and chance for admissions in Delhi colleges and government jobs. In the case of junior athletes, the financial assistance towards their food and nutrition, sports equipment and kits, and travel within the country could go up to Rs 2 lakh for those up to 14 years of age, and Rs 3 lakh for those up to 17.

Misuse of incentives

The Delhi government has two major schemes - "Play and Progress" and "Mission Excellence" - to provide support to promising athletes. "A sportsperson will be supported for his needs related to food/nutrition, sports equipment, sports kits, training and



Lalit Kumar, the only sprinter, at the start line of the men's 100 metre final.

travel, boarding and lodging (within the country as well as outside) and medical needs. The quantum of support shall be demand-linked and not exceeding Rs 16 lakh,"

says a Delhi government circular.

Both the schemes carry a clause that penalises those who fail the dope test. "If at any stage, a sportsperson receiving assistance

from the government is found guilty of age fraud or indulging in doping or getting assistance from any other state/UT, the assistance will be stopped with immediate effect. Recoveries will also be made of the assistance already provided," it says.

It specifies that assistance will be provided "initially for a period of two years", after which "the continuation will be extended on yearly basis", based on an annual review of the athlete's performance.

Dinesh Rawat, former international athlete and Delhi state coach, linked the athletes' behaviour to the financial incentives. "This is the reason why they didn't turn up for the finals. It really hurts me to see the state of affairs right now. These people take shortcuts to get financial assistance, and deserving athletes miss out," he said.

Although a Delhi state medal doesn't make an athlete eligible for a government or PSU (public sector unit) job, Rawat said that it is the first step. "This is the first stage. Selections for the nationals happen on the ba-

sis of state performances. If they don't perform well here, how will they reach the nationals, and try to win a medal there and secure a job? The state meet opens the first door for an athlete," said Rawat, who represented India at the 1998 Asian Games.

But a state medal does help in securing admission in Delhi University. "You get points for each podium finish certificate at state meets. At one point, for a sports quota college admission, the ratio was 50:50 - half for the certificate, and half for college selection trials," said Sandeep Mehta, Delhi State Athletics Association Secretary and an associate professor at Dyal Singh College.

A leading voice in sports medicine in India talks about the perils of short-term benefits.

"The incentives in sports are huge - jobs, prize money, scholarships. Many athletes take to doping to avail these benefits even at the cost of harming their health. They feel rewards are waiting for them," said Dr PSM Chandran, a senior member of NADA's appeals panel.

TOP OF THE WORLD



Li Shangfu has been missing from public eye since August 29.

CHINA
Not aware, says Defence ministry a month after Li went missing

Beijing: A Chinese Defence Ministry spokesperson said Thursday that he was “not aware of the situation” in the ministry’s first public comments on the disappearance of the defence minister from public about a month ago. Wu Qian, the director of ministry’s information office, said it was “not aware of the situation” when asked whether Li Shangfu is under probe and if he is still the defence minister. Li hasn’t been seen since giving a speech on August 29. He is the second senior official to disappear this year.

NORTH KOREA
Constitution amended on nuclear policy

Seoul: North Korea has adopted a constitutional amendment to enshrine its policy on nuclear force, state media reported Thursday, as its leader vowed to accelerate production of nuclear weapons to deter what he called US provocations. The Supreme People’s Assembly unanimously adopted the revision that states North Korea “develops nuclear weapons to ensure” its “rights to existence” and to “deter war”, state agency KCNA reported, after the conclusion Wednesday of a two-day meeting of North’s rubber-stamp House.

FRANCE
State faces action for police racial profiling

Paris: France’s highest administrative court will Friday consider its first class action against the state, alleging racial profiling by police. Six human rights organisations argue that the police systematically discriminate, especially against young Arab and Black men, when deciding who to stop on routine patrols. If successful, they could open the way for similar broad legal challenges in a country where activism has traditionally taken the form of direct protest, and where class actions only became possible in 2014 and remain rare.

THAILAND
Cops seize meth, heroin worth over \$8 million

Bangkok: Police in Thailand said Thursday they made one of country’s biggest ever seizures of illicit drugs, a haul including methamphetamine, crystal meth and heroin, with a total estimated value of about 300 million baht (\$8.2 million). They were seized during a night raid on a house in Nakhon Pathom, west of Bangkok, in which four men were arrested for possession of illegal drugs. The seized drugs included 15 million methamphetamine tablets, 443 wrapped packages of heroin, 420 kilograms of crystal meth.



At a sidewalk, near the medical center, after Dutch police arrested the suspect in Rotterdam.

Student goes on a shooting spree in Rotterdam, kills two, arrested

Gunman opened fire in university hospital, also set a house on fire after attack

PIROSHKA VANDE WOUW
THE HAGUE, SEPTEMBER 28

DUTCH POLICE said a gunman killed a teacher and a local woman after opening fire in a classroom at a university hospital campus in Rotterdam and a nearby house on Thursday. The 32-year-old suspect, a university student, fatally shot a 39-year-old woman living in his neighbourhood and seriously injured her 14-year-old daughter, police said in a televised news conference.

After setting the woman’s house on fire, the gunman went to the Rotterdam Medical Centre university hospital, where he entered a classroom and fatally shot a 46-year-old teacher. The man was arrested near the hospital, where he also set a fire. His motive was unknown. “We have been shocked by a horrible incident. Shots were fired in two different places in the city. Many people witnessed it,” Rotterdam Mayor Ahmed Aboutaleb said. “Emotions in the city are very high. My condolences go out to the victims.”



A police personnel secures the area near medical center after the attack in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

“The suspect was known to law enforcement and in 2021 he was prosecuted and convicted for animal abuse,” said Hugo Hillenaar, Rotterdam’s chief prosecutor. Videos posted online showed police instructing students, some wearing medical gowns, to run outside as heavily armed arrest teams arrived at the scene. One video showed a man in handcuffs wearing what appeared to be camouflage pants. Police said there were no indications of a second shooter.

Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh will cease to exist from January 1

FELIX LIGHT
GORIS, SEPTEMBER 28

ETHNIC ARMENIANS in Nagorno-Karabakh said on Thursday they were dissolving the breakaway statelet they had defended for three decades, where more than half the population has fled since Azerbaijan launched a lightning offensive last week. In a statement, they said their self-declared Republic of Artsakh would “cease to exist” by January 1, in what amounted to a formal

Ethnic Armenians flee 65,036 people had crossed into Armenia by Thursday morning, authorities said.

capitulation to Azerbaijan.

For Azerbaijan and its president, Ilham Aliyev, the outcome is a triumphant restoration of sovereignty over an area that is inter-

Trudeau apologises after Canada House speaker hails Nazi veteran

DAVID LJUNGGREN
OTTAWA, SEPTEMBER 28

CANADIAN PRIME Minister Justin Trudeau on Wednesday formally apologised after the speaker of the House of Commons praised a Nazi veteran in the chamber while Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was present.

Trudeau also said Ottawa had already reached out to Kyiv and Zelenskyy through diplomatic channels to apologise. “On behalf of all of us in this House, I



Reached out to Kyiv via diplomatic channels to apologise: Canada PM

would like to present unreserved apologies for what took place on Friday and to President Zelenskyy and the Ukrainian delegation for the position they were put in,” Trudeau told the House. Anthony Rota, who acknowledged veteran Yaroslav Hunka in



COURT HEARS PLEAS AGAINST LAW LIMITING REMOVAL
NETANYAHU FACES A CHALLENGE

Israel Supreme Court heard arguments Thursday against a law limiting conditions for removal of PM Benjamin Netanyahu from office, in latest crisis among government branches to grip the nation.

DEADLINE JUST HOURS AWAY

US Senate, House to hold procedural votes as shutdown looms

MOIRA WARBURTON
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 28

THE US Senate and House on Thursday were due to push ahead with conflicting government funding plans, raising the chances of the fourth partial shutdown of federal government in a decade beginning in just three days. The Senate planned a procedural vote on a stopgap funding bill that has broad bipartisan support in the chamber, while the House of Representatives is set for late-night votes on four partisan appropriations bills that have no chance of becoming law and would not alone prevent a shutdown even if they did. Congress must pass legislation that Democratic President Joe Biden can sign into law by midnight Saturday (0400 GMT on Sunday) to avoid furloughs of hundreds of thousands of federal workers and halting a wide range of services, from economic data releases to nutrition benefits, for the fourth time in the last decade. House Republicans, led by a faction of hardline conservatives in chamber they control by a 221-212 margin, have rejected spending levels for year 2024 set in a deal Speaker Kevin McCarthy negotiated with Biden in May. The agreement included \$1.59 trillion in discretionary spending in fiscal 2024. House Republicans are demanding another \$120 billion in cuts, plus tougher legislation that would stop the flow of immigrants at the US southern border with Mexico.



McCarthy is facing intense pressure from his caucus to achieve their goals.

What is the stopgap measure?

THE SENATE’S stopgap funding measure would extend federal spending until Nov. 17, and authorizes roughly \$6 billion each for domestic disaster response funding and aid to Ukraine to defend itself against Russia.

The funding fight focuses on a small slice of the \$6.4 trillion US budget for this fiscal year. Lawmakers are not considering cuts to popular benefit programs like Social Security and Medicare. McCarthy is facing pressure from his caucus to achieve goals. Several hardliners have threatened to oust McCarthy from leadership role if he passes a spending bill that requires any Democratic votes to pass.



At the launch event of Narwhal, Taiwan’s first domestically built submarine, in Kaohsiung on Thursday.

Taiwan reveals its first locally built submarine as China threat grows

WALID BERRAZEG & SARAH WU
KAOHSIUNG, SEPTEMBER 28

TAIWAN UNVEILED its first domestically developed submarine on Thursday, a major step in a project aimed at strengthening the island’s defence and deterrence against the Chinese navy, though it won’t enter service for another two years. Taiwan, which China claims as its own territory, has made the indigenous submarine programme a key part of an ambitious project to modernise its armed forces as Beijing stages almost daily military exercises to assert its sovereignty.

President Tsai Ing-wen, who initiated the plan when she took office in 2016, showed off the first of eight new submarines on Thursday in city of Kaohsiung. Tsai said the Narwhal will enter service in 2025, joining two existing submarines purchased from Netherlands in the 1980s. China’s defence ministry, responding at a monthly press briefing about the submarine and how it could prevent China surrounding island, said Taiwan was “overrating itself and attempting something impossible”. The indigenous programme has drawn on expertise and technology from several countries — a breakthrough for diplomatically isolated Taiwan.

FROM THEATRE TO BIG SCREEN, HE DONNED MANY HATS; KNIGHTED IN 1998, HE CALLED IT A ‘NICE LITTLE PRESENT’

Michael Gambon, Harry Potter’s Dumbledore No. 2, dies at 82

REUTERS
LONDON, SEPTEMBER 28

BRITISH-IRISH actor Michael Gambon, best known to global audiences for playing the wise professor Albus Dumbledore in the Harry Potter movie franchise and whose career was launched by his mentor Laurence Olivier, died aged 82 on Thursday. He died peacefully in hospital, PA Media reported citing a family statement. Gambon began his acting on the stage in the early 1960s and later moved into TV and film. Notable film roles include a psy-

chotic mob leader in Peter Greenaway’s *The Cook, the Thief, His Wife & Her Lover* in 1989 and the elderly King George V in Tom Hooper’s *The King’s Speech* in 2010. But his best-known role was as Dumbledore in the Harry Potter franchise, a role he took over from the third instalment in the eight-movie series after he replaced the late Richard Harris in 2004. Gambon played down the praise for his performance and said he simply played himself “with a stuck-on beard and a long robe”. Michael John Gambon was born on October 19, 1940, in Dublin to a seamstress mother and an engineer father. The family



Gambon retired from stage in 2015 after suffering memory problems but continued to act onscreen until 2019.

moved to Camden Town in London when Gambon was six as his family sought work. Gambon left school aged 15 to begin an engineering apprenticeship and by 21 he was fully qualified. However, he was also a member of an amateur theatre group and always knew he would act, he told *The Herald* newspaper in 2004. He was inspired by American actors Marlon Brando and James Dean, who he believed reflected angst of teenage boys. In 1962 he auditioned for the great Shakespearean actor Olivier who made him one of the founding members of the National Theatre at the Old Vic, alongside

young emerging greats like Derek Jacobi and Maggie Smith. Gambon built his reputation on the stage over the following years, making his name in particular with 1980 portrayal of Galileo in John Dexter’s *Life of Galileo*. The 1980s brought attention with the lead role in 1986 TV show *The Singing Detective*, in which he played a writer suffering from a skin condition whose imagination provided the only escape from his pain. The performance won him one of his four BAFTAs. Gambon was made a Commander of the British Empire in 1992 and knighted for services to drama in 1998, something he

called “a nice little present”, although he did not use the title. A mischievous personality, he often made up stories. For years he showed fellow actors a signed photograph of Robert De Niro which he had inscribed himself before ever meeting the actor. He revealed in an episode of *The Late Late Show* in Ireland that he convinced his mother he was friends with the pope. Gambon retired from stage in 2015 after suffering memory problems but continued to act onscreen until 2019. He told an interviewer in 2002 that his work made him feel “the luckiest man in the world”.

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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

EXPLAINED CULTURE

INDIA'S HIGHEST FILM HONOUR, FOR A LEGEND OF BOLLYWOOD



In Mumbai in December 2022, (from left) Asha Parekh, director Ramesh Sippy, Saira Banu, and Waheeda Rehman. PTI

ARUSHI BHASKAR
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

VETERAN BOLLYWOOD actress Waheeda Rehman, 85, has been conferred with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2021. Prime Minister Narendra Modi wrote on X (Twitter), "Her journey in Indian cinema has left an indelible mark. A beacon of talent, dedication and grace, she embodies the best of our cinematic heritage."

The Phalke award

India's highest recognition in the field of cinema, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award is given for "outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian cinema" by the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting's (I&B) Directorate of Film Festivals.

The award is named after Dhundiraj Govind Phalke (1870-1944), affectionately called Dadasaheb. Phalke was a producer-director-screenwriter who has been referred to as "the Father of Indian cinema". His debut film *Raja Harishchandra* (1913) was India's first full-length feature film.

The award was instituted in 1969, with actress Devika Rani being the first recipient. The award comprises a *Swarna Kamal* (Golden Lotus) medallion, a shawl, and a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh.

The winner of 2021

Born on February 3, 1938, Waheeda Rehman has been part of the Indian film industry since 1955, when she made her

debut as a dancer in the Telugu social drama *Rojulu Marayi*. It is during the celebrations of the film's success that she met the legendary Guru Dutt, and subsequently travelled to Bombay.

She was cast in Raj Khosla's *CID* (1956), in which she played the role of a "vamp" against matinee idol Dev Anand. The film became the highest-grosser of that year.

Her next film *Pyasa* (1957), directed by Guru Dutt and with him in the lead role, won her critical acclaim in her role as a courtesan. She would go on to become one of the most sought-after leading ladies of the 1950s and 60s, a period often referred to as the golden age of Hindi cinema.

In 1971, she won the National Award for Best Actress for *Reshma Aur Shera*, directed by and co-starring Sunil Dutt. She won Filmfare Awards for *Guide* (1965) and *Neel Kamal* (1968).

Among her other films are: *Kaagaz Ke Phool* (1959), *Sahib Bibi Aur Ghulam* (1962), *Teesri Kasam* (1966), *Ram Aur Shyam* (1967), *Khamoshi* (1969), and *Kabhi Kabhie* (1976).

Past winners

Some of India's tallest film personalities have won the Phalke, including Prithviraj Kapoor (1971), Satyajit Ray (1984), Raj Kapoor (1987), Lata Mangeshkar (1989), Bhupen Hazarika (1992), Majrooh Sultanpuri (1993), Shivaji Ganesan (1996), Dev Anand (1992), K Balachander (2010), Amitabh Bachchan (2018), and Rajinikanth (2019). Asha Parekh won the award for 2020.

EXPLAINED CLIMATE

MELTDOWN: SWISS GLACIERS LOST 10% OF VOLUME IN WORST 2 YEARS

SWITZERLAND'S GLACIERS suffered their second worst melt rate this year after record 2022 losses, shrinking their overall volume by 10 per cent in the last two years — as much ice in two years as in the three decades before 1990 — monitoring body GLAMOS said on Thursday.

"This year was very problematic for glaciers because there was really little snow in winter, and the summer was very warm," Matthias Huss, who leads Glacier Monitoring Switzerland (GLAMOS), told *Reuters*.

More than half of the glaciers in the Alps

are in Switzerland, where temperatures are rising by around twice the global average due to climate change. This year, low winter snowfall combined with a longer summer melt season dealt heavy losses.

In the peak melt month of August, the Swiss weather service said the elevation at which precipitation freezes hit a new record overnight high, measured at 5,289 meters (17,350 ft), an altitude higher than Mont Blanc's summit.

Swiss records go back to at least 1960 and as far back as 1914 for some glaciers.

REUTERS

EXPLAINED FOREIGN POLICY & STRATEGY

Maldives elections and India

As President Solih, seen as friendly to India, faces a tough re-election and the pro-China Opposition fuels an 'India-Out' campaign, New Delhi is watching the strategically important Indian Ocean country closely



SHUBHAJIT ROY

MALDIVES GOES to runoff polls this Saturday, after no candidate secured more than 50% of votes in the first round on September 9.

The electoral system of the Maldives is similar to France's, where the winner has to secure more than 50% of votes. If no one crosses the mark in the first round, in the second round, the top two candidates go head to head.

In the first round, President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih of the Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) got 39% of the vote; the Opposition alliance candidate Mohamed Muizzu got 46%.

The first round had eight candidates — the highest so far. Maldives has a population of only 5.2 lakh, with 2.8 lakh eligible voters, according to the Election Commission.

History, from Naseer to Solih

Maldives has followed a system of Executive Presidency since 1968. It had a single-party system till 2008, and the President was elected for five years through a referendum.

The first executive President, Ibrahim Naseer, was in power from 1968 to 1978. After protests erupted in 1978, he did not contest for a third term, and Parliament chose Maumoon Abdul Gayoom President. Gayoom ruled for 30 years till 2008, famously defeating a coup attempt with India's help in 1988.

Amid protests by various groups, Gayoom undertook political reforms in 2004. Political parties were registered in 2005 and a new Constitution adopted in 2008. That charted the path towards Presidential elections every five years with a multi-party system.

Since 2008, no incumbent President has been re-elected. In the last elections in 2018, Solih defeated the incumbent Abdulla Yameen.

Maldives' Presidents and India

India's experience with Maldives politics has been a mixed bag, with Solih's government being the most favourable so far.

India worked with Abdul Gayoom closely for three decades. When Mohamed Nasheed came to power in 2008, then Vice President



Solih at Rashtrapati Bhavan in 2022. Tashi Tobgyal (Above) Muizzu, the challenger. X/MMuizzu

Hamid Ansari attended his oath-taking ceremony, signalling New Delhi's support.

While initially there was bonhomie between India and Nasheed, he soon began courting China. The Maldives government cancelled the GMR contract for the Maldives airport in 2012, a major setback to ties.

After Yameen came to power in 2013, he courted China much more aggressively. Under him, Maldives joined President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative.

When India and Western lenders were unwilling to offer loans to Yameen's administration due to allegations of human rights violations, Beijing offered him money without conditions.

So, when Solih won the 2018 elections, New Delhi heaved a sigh of relief. Prime Minister Narendra Modi went to Maldives to attend the swearing-in ceremony.

Over the past five years, the relationship has strengthened, and India has reached out to Maldives on various occasions — from providing vaccines to building infrastructure to helping with debt relief assistance.

Aid, trade, and pushback

According to Indian officials, India's swift dispatch of 30,000 doses of measles vaccine in January 2020, and the rapid and comprehensive assistance during the Covid-19 pandemic, has reinforced India's credentials of being Maldives' "first responder".

In the past, India was the first to assist Maldives during the 2004 tsunami as well as the water crisis in Malé in December 2014.

India's recent projects in Maldives include water and sanitation on 34 islands, roads and land reclamation under the Addu develop-

ment project, a cancer hospital, a port project, a cricket stadium, two airport development projects, the Greater Malé connectivity project with bridges, causeways and roads, social housing projects, renovation of a mosque, building the national college for police, among others. Estimates suggest that between 2018 to 2022, Indian aid was over Rs 1,100 crore, more than double the previous five-year-term (about Rs 500 crore).

Trade between the two countries was about Rs 50 crore last year, of which India exported commodities worth Rs 49.5 crore — from daily essentials including rice, spices, fruits, vegetables and poultry produce to medicines and cement. India imports primarily scrap metals, and is exploring seafood products.

Maldives' proximity to the west coast of India and its position at the hub of commercial sea lanes running through the Indian Ocean imbues it with strategic importance for India.

As a consequence, the defence ties between India and Maldives have grown, especially since the 26/11 attacks, for coastal surveillance and maritime cooperation. India has trained over 1,500 Maldivian defence and security personnel in the last 10 years, meeting around 70% of their defence training requirements.

India has also gifted two helicopters in 2010 and 2013 and one small aircraft in 2020. This has led to claims of Indian military personnel being stationed in Maldives to operate and maintain the aircraft, though Delhi has said the planes are for search and rescue missions and medical evacuations.

"While India's role as a development partner has been appreciated by many, a large section of Maldivians, particularly the youth, are getting attracted to the 'India Out' move-

Jewar is DXN: How do airports get codes?

ARJUN SENGUPTA
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

THE UPCOMING Noida International Airport (NIA) in Jewar has been awarded the unique international code 'DXN' by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

NIA CEO Christoph Schnellmann said 'DXN' signifies Delhi-Noida and its connectivity to the world through this airport. "The D in DXN signifies Delhi, and N stands for Noida, which shows our presence in the Western UP area. X, we think, signifies connectivity within India and the world," he said on Wednesday.

Phase 1 of the airport, 65 km from Botanical Garden, Noida, is proposed to open by the end of 2024 with one terminal and a 3.9-km-long North Runway. The airport will initially have a capacity of 12 million passengers annually.

What are airport codes?

An airport code is a unique identifier that is assigned to each airport. While most people are familiar only with the codes assigned by



Noida International Airport CEO Schnellmann and COO Jain in Greater Noida on Wednesday. PTI

IATA, a Montreal-based international aviation trade association, each airport actually has two unique codes — the other is assigned by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), an arm of the UN. Both are used to accurately identify airports, but in different contexts.

The three-digit IATA codes are used for passenger-facing operations — on tickets, boarding passes, signages, etc. The four-digit codes assigned by the ICAO are used by industry profes-

sionals such as pilots, air traffic controllers, planners, etc. For instance, for Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi, the IATA code is DEL, whereas the ICAO code is VIDP.

Airport coding began in the 1930s, in the very early days of commercial aviation. At the time, airlines and pilots typically chose their own two-letter codes to identify destinations. However, by the 1940s, as the number of airports grew exponentially, a system of three-letter codes was devised (allowing for a far higher number of combinations) and eventually standardised in the 1960s by the IATA.

"This is one of our major milestones as an airport operator, the identity of our airport. The code is for infinity, it's not going to change (as long as the airport remains)," said Kiran Jain, Chief Operating Officer, NIA.

How does IATA assign airport codes?

While many airport codes intuitively make sense (like DEL for Delhi or BOM for Mumbai, previously Bombay), others seem to be more random (like IXR for Ranchi). This is what determines the IATA code for any airport:

■ *How the airport wishes to identify itself.* Airport authorities lobby for a code that they deem meaningful in some way. City names, airport names, and location names are some common bases for codes.

■ *Availability of said code.* The codes are meaningful only because they are unique; no two airports can have the same IATA code. This is one of the reasons why Ranchi airport is not RAN (taken by Ravenna, Italy).

■ *Certain common conventions, which depend on the country.* The other reason why Ranchi airport is IXR is a convention followed in India where military airports extended for civilian traffic are assigned codes beginning with 'IX'. So, Agartala airport is IXA, Chandigarh airport is IXC, and Leh airport is IXL.

Similarly, in Canada, all airport codes begin with 'Y' — Toronto has YYZ, Vancouver YVR, and so on. In the US, all codes starting with N are reserved for the US Navy.

The assignment of these codes is governed by IATA Resolution 763 and are published twice each year in the IATA Airline Coding Directory.

India in JP Morgan bond index, economy set to get dollar inflow boost



GEORGE MATHIEW & HITESH VYAS

JPMORGAN Chase & Co last week became the first global index provider to include Indian government bonds in its emerging markets index (GBI-EM), setting the stage for billions of dollars of inflows into the Indian economy. Other global investment majors are said to be in a watch-and-wait mode to bring India into their investment index baskets.

Views are divided on when the expected dollar inflows might start. However, there is unanimity that a surge in flows will bolster India's fiscal and balance of payments dynamics. Higher inflows could also help

keep the rupee strong, but could have an impact on retail inflation.

How will India's local bonds be included in the JP Morgan debt index?

The inclusion of eligible bonds in the index will be staggered over a 10-month period from June 28, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

Global investors allocate funds to various countries depending on their weightage in leading indices. JP Morgan GBI-EM is a widely tracked debt index — and analysts estimate this inclusion could result in inflows of around \$25-30 billion into the government securities market.

In a note, Goldman Sachs said foreign funds may start flowing into the country "immediately". "Given that several EM (emerging market) dedicated funds are already set up on India, we think the flows will be front-loaded, beginning immediately, as investors pre-position for inclusion next year," the note said.

Are more index inclusions on the way?

"With the exclusion of Russia and the

troubles in China, global debt investors now have fewer options. Hopefully rating agencies will respect investors' viewpoint, and give up their moody and poor standards," Nilesh Shah, MD, Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company, said.

FTSE Russell, another major index provider, has Indian bonds on index watch for inclusion in its emerging market gauge. The FTSE Emerging Markets Government Bond Index-Capped (EM GBI-Capped) oversaw total funds (AUM) of \$1,477 billion at the end of August, making it more than six times bigger than JP Morgan Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets Global Diversified (JPM GBI-EM GD). Soumya Kanti Ghosh, Group Chief Economic Adviser, State Bank of India, said choosing JPM GBI-EM could be a "deliberate move on the part of the government and RBI to ensure future developments have a natural progression, evolving and maturing organically to mitigate possible points of friction".

In a note, IDFC First Bank said India's chances of inclusion in the Bloomberg

Global Aggregate Index has risen after the inclusion in the JP Morgan EM bond index.

"In case India is included in the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Index, it could result in inflows of \$15 billion to \$20 billion with India's weight ranging from 0.6 per cent to 0.8 per cent," the note said.

What will be the impact of this development?

INTEREST RATES: Analysts say high inflows could put downward pressure on interest rates. The foreign demand for government bonds will push down yields, which in turn, will ease pressure on interest rates in the financial system. This will happen much earlier than June 2024.

CORPORATES & MARKETS: Most corporate bond yields are benchmarked to yields on government bonds. "Therefore, yields will decline pan India, across industries. The decline in the cost of capital will translate into higher profits for the corporate sector, which in turn, will boost stock

prices..." V.K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said.

RUPEE: Higher inflows will likely keep the rupee strong, but put pressure on retail inflation. However, the RBI has various instruments to keep the rupee stable and maintain the liquidity position at a comfortable level. Strong inflows have the potential to push up retail inflation.

MACRO: Foreign exchange reserves are expected to get a boost in 2024 and 2025. Positive sentiments around the JP Morgan index inclusion could lead to some inflows in the remainder of FY23 as well. With current account deficit (CAD) expected in the range of 1.5-1.6% of GDP, these flows will help to augment India's balance of payments (BoP) surplus. This is important because India's CAD in FY25 is expected to reach 2% of GDP amidst a pickup in global and domestic growth, and higher commodity prices, according to a Bank of Baroda report.

Are there any major concerns?

A heavy flow of foreign debt comes with its macro-prudential risks. There is a risk of

retail inflation rising; besides, foreign portfolio investment flows tend to be volatile and highly dependent on exogenous factors. "In the case of any adverse external shock, investors tend to move away from riskier markets like India, which can lead to a capital flight. This will leave India's financial markets prone to heightened volatility. Both bond markets and the domestic currency will be impacted," the BoB report cautioned.

The sudden exit of foreign investors can also impact the stock markets, leading to losses for investors.

Historically, there have been a few instances wherein capital outflows have resulted in a rapid depreciation of the rupee.

In short, inclusion in such indices makes the country susceptible to higher financial sector volatility. This would require robust monitoring and intervention by the RBI and government. As such, RBI will have its task cut out to ensure stability in the financial markets and prevent spillovers from financial markets in the real economy, the BoB report said.



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Washington, Thursday. AP

Jaishankar meets US NSA, talks progress in bilateral relations

LALIT K JHA
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 28

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Minister S Jaishankar on Thursday met US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and US Trade Representative Katherine Tie and discussed the progress in bilateral relations, including the trade and economic cooperation and ways to take it forward.

Jaishankar, who arrived here from New York on Wednesday after addressing the 78th General Assembly session of the United Nations on Tuesday, will meet US Secretary of State Antony Blinken later in the day. "Began my Washington DC visit with a meeting with NSA @JakeSullivan46. Recognised the tremendous progress in our bilateral relationship this year and discussed taking it forward," Jaishankar said in a post on X. The White House was not

immediately available for comments on the meeting.

Jaishankar also met the US Trade Representative Tie and discussed the growing economic ties between Washington and New Delhi.

The minister also engaged with think tanks here and held an "open and productive" conversation, discussing India's expanding role in the global world.

"An open and productive conversation with Think Tanks in Washington DC this morning. Discussed transformations underway around the world and India's growing role," he said.

Jaishankar will meet Blinken at the Foggy Bottom headquarters of the State Department later in the day.

This is the highest-level meeting between the two countries after the recently concluded G-20 summit in New Delhi and amidst the India-Canada diplomatic row. PTI

RE-EMPLOYMENT, ARREAR TO STAFF

SC allows SpiceJet to seek modification in HC order

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

THE SUPREME Court has allowed SpiceJet to approach the Bombay High Court to seek modification in the HC order asking it to provide employment/wages to workers whose services it allegedly terminated, after the airline reasoned that its operations had been significantly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The airline's stand is that these employees were on "fixed-term contracts" and their employment came to an end on expiry of the contract period.

A bench of Justices J K Maheshwari and K V Viswanathan, which heard the appeal filed by SpiceJet challenging the May 3, 2023 order of the

HC, noted that the documents relating to the period of service put in by the employees and the ones on reduction in number of flight operations, be brought to the notice of the HC.

"...at the first instance, it is imperative on petitioners to bring all those documents to the notice of the High Court and seek modification of the order impugned.

In view of above facts, learned senior counsel appearing for the petitioners seeks permission to withdraw this Special Leave Petition with liberty to approach the High Court seeking modification of the order impugned," the bench said in September 22 order.

By its order dated January 10, 2022, the Central Government Industrial Tribunal-2 (CGIT-2), Mumbai, had directed SpiceJet to

provide employment to over 350 of these former employees.

The HC modified this and directed the airline to provide employment or back wages to 60 employees as undertaken by the operator earlier and work and back wages to those of the remaining who had not yet resigned and were willing to work.

The SLP filed against this through Advocate Nupur Kumar said the courts below had "erroneously failed to consider that the case of all the employees seeking permanence of employment cannot be similarly placed...as all employees...had not put in an equal number of years of service".

The plea pointed out that of the total 371 employees, only 26 had put in service of five years or more while 120 had resigned.

WEST BENGAL SCHOOL JOBS CASE

ED summons TMC MP Abhishek, his parents

SWEETY KUMARI
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 28

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) has summoned Trinamool Congress general secretary Abhishek Banerjee and his parents — Amit Banerjee and Lata Banerjee — for questioning in connection with its probe into the school jobs scam in West Bengal.

Abhishek, the Diamond Harbour MP, said that he had been asked to appear by the central agency on October 3, the day he was scheduled to participate in the TMC's protest in New Delhi



Abhishek Banerjee

against the BJP government at the Centre over alleged non-transfer of central funds to the state.

This is the first time that his parents Amit Banerjee and Lata Banerjee, directors in Leaps and Bounds, the company which is under the ED's scanner in the recruitment case, have been summoned in the case.

X SUSPENDS ACCOUNT

Bengaluru doctor barred from posting messages against 'Himalaya Wellness'

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 28

A CIVIL court in Bengaluru issued a temporary injunction against a Bengaluru-based doctor and rationalist Cyriac Aby Philips, barring him from communicating messages on his social media handle or publishing against products of Himalaya Wellness Company. The court ordered social media service X Corp (formerly Twitter) to block the handle of Dr Phillips.

The civil court passed the order on September 23 after the Himalaya Wellness Company approached the court stating that posts and messages by Dr Phillips on alternative medicine products by the company were damaging sales and benefiting competitors. "In the facts and circumstances issue ad interim ex parte temporary injunction order re-

straining Defendant No.1 from tweeting, making or publishing, re-tweeting and re-publishing defamatory remarks against the plaintiff company and /or the products of the plaintiff company till next date of hearing," the civil court said while posting the case for hearing on January 5, 2024.

X Corp has suspended the account of Dr Phillips since the September 23 order.

The Himalaya Wellness Company has accused Dr Phillips of "posting derogatory statements and materials against the products" of the company leading to the substantial reduction of business. It has alleged that the social media messages of the doctor are intended to push products of pharma firms Cipla and Alchem.

The court ruled that an urgent injunction has to be issued in the matter without serving notices to the defendants to state their case.

INVESTORS SUMMIT

Uttarakhand inks deals worth Rs 3,000 crore

Dehradun: Investment MoUs worth Rs 3,000 crore were signed with two companies on Thursday, the third day of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami's visit to Britain, during a meeting organised for the Global Investors Summit in London. Dhami is in the UK to attract investments for the investors summit scheduled in Uttarakhand in December.

While meetings continued with several global investors, an MoU worth Rs 2,000 crore was signed with Agar Technology and another worth Rs 1,000 crore with Fira Barcelona. Agar Technology has agreed to invest in lithium battery plants in Uttarakhand.

Fira Barcelona is a prestigious group in Europe that deals in convention center and events management. ENS

20-yr-old dies by suicide in Kota

Jaipur: A 20-year-old student allegedly died by suicide in Kota on Wednesday. The exact reason behind his action is not yet clear, said officials on Thursday.

According to the police, the student's body was discovered on Wednesday afternoon. "The student has been iden-

tified as Mohammad Tanveer Khan. He is a native of Uttar Pradesh's Maharajganj and was living in Kota with his father and sister...The student was upset at this as the family is facing financial difficulties," sub-inspector Navalkishor Sharma on Thursday. ENS

ख़ुशहाल बागवानी

बागवानी प्रशिक्षण हेतु आवेदन आमन्त्रित (संशोधित)

बागवानी विभाग, हरियाणा सरकार, उद्यान प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, उपाणी कन्यालय में श्री विष्णुकर्मा कोशल विश्वविद्यालय, पलवल को उद्यान एक वर्ष का डिप्लोमा ऑफ हार्डिस्कनर एंव एक वर्ष का डिप्लोमा ऑफ वुड एंव वॉजटेबल प्रोसेसिंग टेक्नीसीयन कोर्स चलाने हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। इच्छु, प्रार्थी दिनांक 30.09.2023 से दिनांक 11.10.2023 सुबह 11:00 बजे तक प्रार्थी उद्यान प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, उपाणी कन्यालय से विवरण-पत्रिका (फोल्डर) खरीदकर आवेदन कर सकते हैं। डिप्लोमा कोर्स की फीस व कोर्स के बारे में अन्य जानकारी विवरण - पत्रिका में दी गई है।

क्रम संख्या	कोर्स का नाम व स्तर	कोर्स का पाठ्य व समय अवधि	सैद्धांतिक योग्यता	सीटों की संख्या	प्रार्थी सूचना
1.	उद्यान प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, उपाणी कन्यालय	डिप्लोमा ऑफ हार्डिस्कनर (एक वर्ष)	12वीं उत्तीर्ण (न्यूनतम 50 प्रतिशत अंको के साथ)	30	उद्यान प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, उपाणी कन्यालय मो.8870027877
2.		डिप्लोमा ऑफ वुड एंव वॉजटेबल प्रोसेसिंग टेक्नीसीयन (एक वर्ष)	12वीं उत्तीर्ण (न्यूनतम 50 प्रतिशत अंको के साथ)	30	

दाखिल की प्रक्रिया:

- प्रार्थी उद्यान प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, उपाणी कन्यालय से विवरण-पत्रिका खरीदकर ऑफलाइन माध्यम से आवेदन कर सकते हैं।
- विवरण पत्रिका सामान्य बर्ष के लिए 300 रुपये प्रति व अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जन जाति/पिछाड बर्ष के लिए 180 रुपये प्रति के अनुसार उद्यान प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, उपाणी कन्यालय से खरीद सकते हैं।
- कोर्स के लिए प्रार्थी की न्युनाता अनु दिनांक 11.10.2023 तक 18 वर्ष व अधिकतम 30 वर्ष होनी चाहिये।
- प्रार्थीको का दाखिला भरवारी बसा के अंको व साक्षात्कार के अंको की तैरिद के अनुसार पर होना।
- कांवेसिंग 12.10.2023 को सुबह 09:00 बजे उद्यान प्रशिक्षण संस्थान उपाणी, कन्यालय ऑफलाइन माध्यम से होना।
- कांवेसिंग के दिन सभी आवेदकों को नुन पराखाने व उनकी फोटोकोपी (स्टिक हार्डिस्कनेट, 12वीं पास हार्डिस्कनेट, अक्षर कार्य, परिवार परामात्र पत्र व अन्य जरूरी दस्तावेज) के साथ-साथ 2 पासपोर्ट साइज फोटो लेकर जाना अनिवार्य है।
- कोर्स की कक्षाएं 17.10.2023 से उद्यान प्रशिक्षण संस्थान उपाणी, कन्यालय ऑफलाइन माध्यम से शुरू होगी।
- कोर्स की रीसा उत्तीर्ण करने के उपरान्त श्री विष्णुकर्मा कोशल विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा प्रमाण पत्र जारी किया जायेगा।

नोट:- प्रशासनिक कारणों से कोर्स की अवधि को आगे बढ़ाया जा सकता है। अधिक जानकारी के लिए संबंधित केन्द्र अधिकारी से संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

प्रधानाचार्य,
उद्यान प्रशिक्षण संस्थान,
उपाणी, कन्यालय

21482/HRY

Regional Office Samastipur :
Panchvati Complex, Mohanpur
Road, Samastipur (Bihar)-848101

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया
UNION BANK OF INDIA
A MEMBER OF THE GROUP

POSSESSION NOTICE
(For immovable property)

Whereas:
The undersigned being the authorised officer of **Union Bank of India**, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the following borrowers and guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and as stated below. The borrower/guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules.

The borrower/guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Union Bank of India**, for an amount mentioned as stated below and interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Branch Name	Name of the Borrower Name of the Mortgagor/Guarantor	Description of the Secured Assets	1. Amount of Demand 2. Date of Demand 3. Date of Possession
Jhanjharpur Branch	1. Borrower: M/s Sriraman Srimati (Jhanjharpur RS), Proprietor- Sanjay Kumar Ray, Situated at Jhanjharpur RS Bazar Near ICICI Bank Behat, Jhanjharpur, Madhubani, Bihar-847403 2. Borrower: Sanjay Kumar Ray, S/o Mahadev Prasad Ray, (Prop of M/s Sriraman Srimati (Jhanjharpur RS)) R/o-Ward No. 6, Patthari Tol Behat, Jhanjharpur RS, Madhubani, Bihar-847403 3. Guarantor: Manoj Kumar, S/o-Baidyanath Yadav, R/o-Ward No. 4 vill Motanjay Post Thengaha, Darbhanga, Bihar-847405	Land & building in the name of Mr. Sanjay Kumar S/o-Late Mahadev Prasad situated at Mauza Behat, Parathi Tola Thana-Lakhnau, Jhanjharpur, District- Madhubani, Bihar bearing land detail as under:- Thana No. 238, Tazui No. 6424, Khata No. 283, Khesra No.- 4429, 4430 (old) 9569, 9570 (New), Area 12 Dhur. Boundry: N- Yadubir and Uday, S- Subendra Jha, Sebak, E- Anil Singh, W- Fulendra Jha	1. Rs. 11,13,302.37 /- 2. 20.04.2023 3. 26.09.2023

Place : Madhubani
Date : 27.09.2023

Authorised officer
Union bank of India

Atal Medical & Research University, H.P.

(A State Govt. University)

(SLBS Govt. Medical College & Hospital Campus, Ner Chowk, Mandi, H.P.)

www.amruhp.ac.in, WhatsApp No.94591-39364, Phone No. 01905-243967

Admission Notice

Counselling and Admission for MD/MS

Ayurved courses for Academic Year 2023-2024

Online applications are invited from interested candidates who have qualified AIAPGET 2023, for counseling and admission in MD/MS Ayurved courses for academic year 2023-24, of Govt./private Ayurved colleges situated in the state of Himachal Pradesh. Interested candidates can apply online through <https://erpamruhp.in/> from 29th September 2023 (Friday) to 4th October 2023. For details, please visit Atal Medical & Research University, HP website www.amruhp.ac.in and for enquiry contact on WhatsApp No. 9459139364 and Email Id amruhlpdesk.ayush@gmail.com

Controller of Examinations

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, PWD (ROADS)

ASSAM, CHANDMARI, GUWAHATI-3

No-CE/STBR/MMPNA/08/2022-23/1

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Chief Engineer, PWD, (Roads), Assam, Chandmari, Ghy-3 on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites Bids online for Roads & Bridge projects in Tamulpur, Borkhola, Katigorah, Lakhipur, Silchar, Sonai, Udarbond, Sonari, Mangoldoi, Dhubri, Gauripur, Golokgonj, Goalpara West, Jaleswar, Khumtai, Algapur, Hailakandi, Katlicherra, Jamunamukh, Jorhat, Boko, Dispur, Ratabari, Jagiroad, Lahorighat, Batadrava, Nagaon, Borchola, Patacharkuchi, Barama, Bagbhor, Abhayapuri South, Bijni, Sidi, Sipajhar, Bilasipara West, Nahorkata, Haflong, Kamalpur, West Guwahati, Bokajan, Badarpur, Karimganj West, Karimganj South, Patharkandi & Nazira LACS of Assam from eligible registered Contractors for **117 (one hundred seventeen) Nos.** of Repair/Rehabilitation of Steel BUG Bridges under Mukhya Mantrir Path Nabikaran Achari (MMPNA) for 2023-24 for an amount of **Rs. 2714.39 Lakhs** (approx). Details may be seen at website <http://assamtenders.gov.in> and also at the office of the undersigned (State Bridge Design Branch) during office hours.

Note:

- The Scheme is not yet being sanctioned from competent authority. In the event of non-sanction of the Scheme, the bids may be cancelled and no claim what so ever on account shall be entertained from the bidders.
- The approximate N.I.T. Value is inclusive of GST, L.C. etc.

Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads)
Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3.

Janasanyog/CF/2883/23/29-SEP-23

SHAJUPHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
SEPTEMBER 28

THE KERALA Cabinet led by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan is about to take a leaf out of the playbook of non-Communist parties and launch a yatra across Kerala, to spread the word on the Left government's developmental initiatives, interacting with a cross-section of society and personalities. The month-long tour, named "Nava Kerala Sadas (New Kerala Assembly)", organised by the state government, will begin from the state's north on November 18.

While parties are known to undertake such state-wide tours in Kerala, it is the first time an entire Cabinet is slated to move from one Assembly constituency to another over the period of a month. The official tour, which will include party conventions, is aimed at gathering feedback from the people on the progress in key areas the CPI(M)-led LDF

Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan

government has made over the last seven years, plus popularising its representatives.

Addressing the media on Wednesday, CM Vijayan said the government has made several strides towards creating a new Kerala.

Slamming the programme, senior Congress legislator and Leader of the Opposition (LoP) V D Satheesan called Nava Kerala Sadas a government-sponsored poll campaign. "The LDF should conduct the election campaign at its own cost. The CPI(M) has no right to squander taxpayers' money on a poll campaign. This

is meant for an overhaul of the state government. The UDF will boycott the programme," he said.

Earlier this year, CPI(M) state secretary M V Govindan had carried out a similar Kerala yatra, the "Janakeeya Prathirodha Jatha (People's Defence Journey)", covering all 140 Assembly constituencies in the state. Govindan's yatra was geared at sensitising people against central policies of the BJP government that are "detrimental" to the state, besides exposing the Sangh Parivar's "communal agenda".

As a precursor to the Cabinet's state tour, the CM is conducting a regional review of all projects and flagship schemes. The first such review was done in Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday; the second will be held in Thrissur on Friday. In addition, the government will showcase its achievements in a seven-day-long extravaganza titled, "Keralaleeyam 23", in the first week of November at Thiruvananthapuram.

Governor nod to Gujarat Common varsities Bill

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 28

GOVERNOR ACHARYA Devvrat Thursday assented to the Gujarat Public Universities Bill 2023, which was passed by the Assembly amid opposition from the Congress on September 16.

Sources in the government revealed that the Governor has signed the Bill on Thursday and the same has been communicated to the education department. However, the department is yet to receive the file.

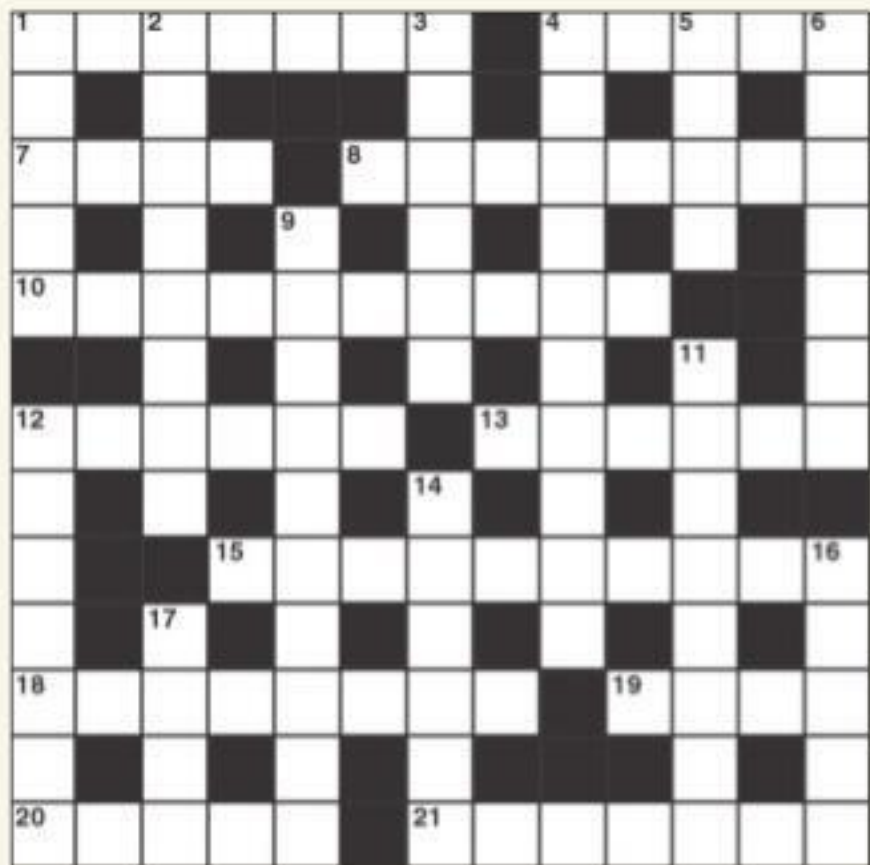
The Opposition Congress had opposed the Bill both inside and outside the Assembly citing curbing of autonomy of the 11 state universities that have been brought under the common Act along with an attempt of "sarkarikaran" (governmentalisation) of education in the state.

From the oldest Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda in Vadodara and Gujarat University Ahmedabad to recent Bhakt Kavi Narsinh Mehta University Junagadh and Shri Govind Guru University Godhra formed in 2015, the Act brings under its purview 11 universities.

A major bone of contention has been the replacement of all elected bodies with a board of management at the universities. The board will become the principal executive and final decision-making of the universities.

epaper.indianexpress.com

CROSSWORD 5169



- ACROSS
1 Store up trouble for a sea god (7)
4 Interrupt one's rest (5)
7 As far as could be from the Mount of Olives (4)
8 He has a burning desire to destroy (8)
10 A blow that is sustained (6,4)
12 Disgraced bogus journalist (6)
13 First impressions of a photographer (6)
15 One match should last him a lifetime (10)
18 Pedestrian way of choosing candidates (8)
19 A travel pass is required in Virginia (4)
20 Fight to get rid of something (5)
21 They transmit power in genes perhaps (7)
- DOWN
1 The fruits of office? (5)
2 Why a note goes astray in transit (2,3,3)
3 Lie in an open sort of way (6)
4 Kind of loaf some prefer to make toast? (5,5)
5 It's a bad thing to be overthrown (4)
6 Cut the top off drawings of boats (7)
9 Groundless rumour that there's unemployment? (4,6)
11 Command a slave to serve one first (8)
12 Meetings that raise the spirits (7)
14 Make a spring comeback (6)
16 Massenet opera; it has been adapted (5)
17 Othello was said to be so secure in Venice (4)

Solutions Crossword 5168 Across: 1 Good weather, 9 Outpost, 10 Ariel, 11 Pine, 12 Riparian, 14 Ringer, 16 Athene, 18 Mainland, 19 Bent, 22 Noose, 23 Tension, 24 Fell through Down: 2 Often, 3 Drop, 4 Entail, 5 Tea party, 6 Edifice, 7 Compartment, 8 Clandestine, 13 Well well, 15 Noisome, 17 Snatch, 20 Eking, 21 Undo

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

- ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**
Although financial schemes may seem to stagnate, today's stars are relatively lively and the end of the week brings a steadily increasing pace. Friends and partners may put demands on your time, and everyone will benefit from a touch of your distinctive humour.
- LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**
There will indeed be some pressure to make positive career changes, but you'll be able to rely on powerful planetary influences to push you in the right direction. Status may be more important than monetary rewards right now.
- TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**
Your business and financial activities, whether real or potential, are becoming ever more complex. Busy times lie ahead and routine chores will therefore mount up. Social introductions should be interesting, and you may fall under someone's spell.
- SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)**
As a Scorpio you are by nature deeply motivated by your beliefs. Partners will be impressed if you share your profound insights and ideas, and keep them up to date with your plans for the future. The weekend's arguments could focus on money - and who owes whom what.
- GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**
Romantic affairs still figure strongly in your calculations, although today's influences in this respect may catch you by surprise. Unfortunately, partners who envy your success may be in a fault-finding mood. You may have to play the martyr, just to placate them.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**
Even though it may be out of character, plotting ways to earn more money has become one of your favourite activities, even if your ideas seldom move beyond the planning stage. If you're spending cash today, gadgets to help with a healthier lifestyle could be a good buy.
- CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**
Partners who are in an argumentative mood will be out of step today. If anyone in your vicinity is upset then be quick to cheer them up, settling disputes and freeing the way for everyone to move on to more constructive avenues. Once you are sure of your next step, please seek support from partners.
- CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**
Even if you're in a secretive mood today, as long as the Moon is aligned with romantic and creative sectors, social and romantic opportunities abound and you'll appreciate considerate and loving behaviour from partners. Take the lead and show how generous you can be now that you're so much more experienced.
- LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**
Professional issues are brought into focus by a series of planets aligned with your tenth and sixth solar houses, especially if you are in the habit of overworking and tiring yourself out. Take it easy if you want to make the most of positive and daring romantic trends.
- AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**
Mercury's relationship with the foundation of your horoscope means that changes in the home may require more thought, although you'll probably be impatient with anybody who stands in your way.
- VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)**
There is no doubt that the Sun's relationship with Venus and Jupiter in suitably ambitious sectors of your solar chart creates brilliant and idealistic possibilities today. It is up to you to set the pace and turn events to your own unique advantage.
- PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**
Short trips could make for an enjoyable day and you will be tempted by diversions and distractions. The time for improvements to your home environment is still with you, so press on regardless. In love, give partners the first choice, and do your best to fulfil their wishes.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.
The day which we _____ is but the birthday of eternity. - Lucius Annaeus Seneca (4,2,3,4)

GALEA
WAORR

ANULST
EEFFSU

SOLUTION: ALGAE, ARROW, SULTAN, EFFUSE
Answer: 'The day which we fear as our last is but the birthday of eternity.'

SUDOKU 5335

SOLUTION SUDOKU 5334

CORPORATE BRIEFS

MoU—ONGC
ONGC inked MoU with NTPC Green Energy Ltd. to realize its Renewable energy objectives towards energy transition on 27 Sept. 2023. The MoU will primarily explore the feasibility & setting up of Renewable Energy Projects in various domains. The MoU envisages collaboration of the two mega entities in Renewable Power Projects in India & Overseas through offshore wind projects.

CSR—INDIANOIL
Ms. Sukla Mistry, Director (Refineries), IndianOil, presented a water canon-fitted vehicle for rescue operations to National Zoological Park, New Delhi under CSR as part of the World Rhino Day celebrations observed on Sept. 22, 2023. The vehicle shall play a crucial role in rescue-related functions within the premises & help avoid any man-animal conflict in a manner which is safer for animals.

FOUNDATION DAY—RAILTEL
RailTel commemorated its 24th Foundation Day at the Airforce Auditorium, New Delhi. Smt. Jaya Varma Sinha, Chairman & CEO of the Railway Board, Shobhan Chaudhary, GM/NRS, Arun Saxena, Advisor to M/o Railways, Sanjai Kumar CMD, V. Rama Manohara Rao, Dir. Manoj Tandon, Dir. POM, YS Tomar, Dir. NPM, Dr. Chandramani Sharma, CVO & other senior officials from RailTel, Railways, different Ministries were present on the occasion.

ANNUAL REPORT—THDCIL
THDCIL presented its Annual Report for the FY 22-23, marking a yr of exceptional success & transformative progress. RK Vishnoi CMD, THDCIL while addressing informed that, during the FY 22-23, we achieved a cumulative energy generation of 4,935.48 (MU), marking the highest level of output in the past nine financial yrs.

EVENT—NBCC
CM of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik inaugurated NBCC built Ravenshaw University in Cuttack. The event was also attended by Bhartruhari Mahtab, MP Cuttack, Ranendra Pratap Swain MLA, Athagarh, Souvic Biswal, MLA, Chandra Sarathi Behera, MLA, Sadarother, MLA & senior officers of District Administration, Ravenshaw University & NBCC were also present.

AGREEMENT—ONGC
ONGC has inked the Crude Oil Sales Agreement with Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals Ltd. which is the largest single-location PSU refinery in the country. The agreement has been signed by the two entities for the sale and purchase of crude oil. ED Marketing ONGC S Kumar & Chandermani GGM (Impex and Shipping) MRPL signed the agreement.

MoU—REC
REC signed an MoU with PNB on Tuesday to jointly explore the possibility to fund the Power Sector & Infrastructure & Logistics Sector projects under the consortium arrangement. T.S.C Bosh, ED (Infra & Logistics), REC & Rajeeva, CGM (Corp. Credit Division), PNB signed the MoU in the presence of Ajoy Choudhary, Dir., REC; VK Singh, Director, Projects, REC.

CONCLAVE—PRSI
The 17th Global Communication Conclave, organized by the Public Relations Council of India, in association with the Public Relations Society Delhi, successfully unfolded recently. The inaugural ceremony witnessed an illustrious gathering of industry leaders & dignitaries, including Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, former Minister of Minority Affairs, & KC Tyagi, Ex-Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha.



ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING—NAFED
The 66th Annual General Body Meeting of the NAFED took place in New Delhi at the NCUI Auditorium, Hauz Khas. Approximately 558 delegates representing various Member societies and state federations, such as RAJFED, MARKFED-Punjab, BISCOMAUN- Bihar, BUNKUS, Delhi State Co-op Federation, & Ahilya Co-operative Society Federation, graced the event with their presence. In his welcome address, Dr Bijender Singh, Chairman NAFED thanked PM Modi, Union Minister for Home & Cooperation, Amit Shah, Union Minister of Agriculture, Narendra Singh Tomar, & senior officers of the Ministry of Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Department of Consumer Affairs for their continued guidance & support to NAFED over the yrs & also for the faith & trust placed in the abilities of the Federation.

VISIT—DMRC
A bunch of youngsters who bravely fought Cancer visited the Delhi Metro Museum. As part of the Childhood Cancer Awareness month in Sept., these enterprising boys & girls enacted a play at the Metro Museum to raise awareness about the disease. DMRC in association with the NGO Cankids. Kidscan organised the event. DMRC's MD, Dr. Vikas Kumar kindly graced the occasion & interacted with these 'warriors'. The event was aptly named 'Udaan' to symbolise their unwavering fight to stand against the odds.

INDIA TAKES THE HELM: G20 2023 PRESIDENCY STEERS TOWARD A GLOBAL FUTURE OF PROGRESS—TIA MATHUR

As India assumed the presidency of the G20 in 2023 – the eighteenth meeting of the Group of Twenty – the world looked to the most populous democracy, an emerging economic powerhouse & a potential global superpower, with high expectations, hope and anticipation. The significance of India's leadership in this global forum cannot be overstated, as it is not only the first G20 summit to be held in India but also came at a critical juncture in history when the world is grappling with multifaceted challenges spanning climate change to escalating geopolitical tensions. Chaired by the visionary leader of the most populous nation, the Indian PM, Narendra Modi & centered on the motto, "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", India's presidency began on 1 December 2022 and will continue until 30 November 2023, wherein India's leadership in the G20 reflects the country's growing economic and geopolitical influence on the world stage. With a population of over 1.3 billion and a thriving economy, India has become a key player in the global arena. Its presidency provides an opportunity to shape global policies through a human-centric development approach, foster economic growth with a focus on women-led development, and address pressing issues such as climate change, debt restructuring, and regulation of global cryptocurrencies. Amidst the pressing challenges facing the world, India's G20 presidency holds immense significance due to the country's economic stature and global influence, placing it in a leadership position to drive positive change and foster international cooperation for making meaningful strides toward a more equitable and sustainable future. In this digital age of evolving connectivity and global awareness, the assumption of India's presidency in the G20 for the year 2023 not only marks a pivotal moment for the world but resonates profoundly with the millennial generation. As the younger demographic of India spreads its wings, aspirations soar, and pride for the nation amplifies, the impact of this momentous responsibility cannot be underestimated. The influence of India's G20 leadership on the collective dreams & ambitions of young teenagers carries a promise of shaping a future where global cooperation and sustainable growth take centre stage, inspiring a generation to dream bigger & reach higher. For Indian millennials, the recent G20 summit hosted by India holds notable implications. Despite the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, India orchestrated a successful G20 summit, enhancing its global standing. The extensive negotiations and diverse discussions over the two-day event showcased India's diplomatic prowess. On the global stage, the G20 declaration tactfully balanced interests.



AWARD - GOA SHIPYARD LTD

NM Wagh, PRO, GSL honoured with PRCI "Promising PR Person of the Year" Award during the Chanakya Award Ceremony at Public Relation Council of India's 17th Global Communication Conclave: "Building Trust Digitally" at Delhi. Jual Oram, MP & Chairman, of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence & Vinod Zutshi, Former Secy. of Tourism, presented the award in the presence of MB Jayaram, PRCI Chief Mentor & Chairman Emeritus, Ms Geetha Shankar, National President, PRCI, & Dr T Vinay Kumar, Secy., GC, PRCI, Rajesh Sahgal, Conclave Chairman, PRCI & a large number of PR, Corporate Communication & Media Professionals. A very seasoned PR Professional Nikhil Wagh has completed Master of Arts in Mass Communication & Journalism, Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication & Journalism.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—IRFC

The 36th AGM of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Ltd. was held under the chairmanship of Smt. Shelly Verma, CMD (Additional Charge) & Director (Finance) of the company. While addressing the AGM, Smt. Shelly Verma said: "IRFC reported a strong financial performance during the yr under review, with all-time high revenue & profits. The net profit of IRFC for FY23 stood at Rs.6,337.01 cr, an increase of 4.06% against Rs.6,089.84 cr in the last fiscal." Smt. Verma further informed that the total revenue from operations grew by 17.70%, year-on-year, amounting to Rs. 23,891.28 cr against Rs.20,298.27 cr in the last fiscal year.

IRCTC On its 24th Foundation Day on 27th September which was also coinciding with the World Tourism Day, IRCTC is offering a slew of attractive offers to the customers to book air tickets with it. Customers can avail this offer by booking their tickets through IRCTC's air ticketing portal www.irctc.co.in as well as IRCTC Air mobile app. Along with Zero Convenience Fees, IRCTC has also launched other offers on this occasion with discounts up to Rs. 2000/- on air tickets on card transactions of different banks. With the festive season shortly beginning from October onwards, customers can now avail these special offers from IRCTC by booking their air tickets for their planned vacations and the New Year which is less than 100 days away.

PFC would like to share the new report from the Asia Transition Finance Study Group, where PFC has been a core member since July, 2023. The ATF Study Group, a private-led initiative whose core participants are Financial Institutions with operations in Asia, has published a report to help Asian economies achieve a just and orderly transition toward a more sustainable future. The ATF Study Group was set up in 2021 in recognition of the important role that transition finance (TF) will play in helping Asian economies move toward net-zero emissions and the challenges they will face. In 2022, the ATF Study Group published the ATF Guidelines to provide TF practitioners with practical guides to assess transition projects and the ATF SG Activity Report to share the challenges and suggested support measures to accelerate TF in Asia. These outcomes were introduced at Asian Green Growth Partnership Ministerial Meetings (AGGPM) in Sept. 2022.

Ready to bring 28% GST on e-gaming from Oct 1, says Centre; all states yet to pass laws

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

WITH ALL states yet to pass legal amendments for the 28 per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) on face value at entry level for on-line gaming, casinos and horse racing, a senior government official Thursday said the Union government is fully prepared to implement the amended legal provisions from October 1.

Asked if the move could get delayed given that not all states have passed the required amendments, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Chairman Sanjay Kumar Agarwal declined to comment.

On recent show-cause notices being sent to the online gaming companies, he said those are being sent as per legal provisions. He declined to put a number on the tax amount for which notices could be sent to the companies, which some estimates have pegged to be

STATES KEY TO IMPLENTING DECISION

■ **GST Council on July 11 decided on 28% tax on full face value for online gaming, casinos and horse racing.**

■ **After some states and industry raised concerns, the council decided to levy the tax on face value at entry level.**

■ **With the new provisions supposed to be implemented from Oct 1, states are required to give their approval by passing amendments or ordinances.**

■ **So far, around a dozen states are learnt to have passed these amendments.**

around Rs 1 lakh crore.

On GST, Agarwal said: “We are fully prepared to bring it into effect from October 1. As per the decision in the last meeting of the GST Council, related notifications are under process. It is necessary for all states to pass the (required) law or bring out an ordinance. Every state needs to give approval because all states’ laws will need to bring in the required provisions... those (states) who are left will have to

complete the exercise,” he said.

The GST Council is slated to meet on October 7. It is expected to take an update on the rollout of the online gaming provisions across states, along with likely rate proposals for milled health drinks and insurance products.

On the recent tax notices, Agarwal said: “Showcause notices are going as per legal provision... the government has taken a uniform stand in terms of interpretation of law and accord-

ingly notices have been issued.”

On the tax amount overdue, he said: “It is difficult to say as there are many companies and in that case data is being collected. Wherever data has been received, the department has issued showcause notice.”

Agarwal, who was speaking on the sidelines of an event by industry body FICCI, said any required notification for the rollout of the last meeting’s decision for GST on online gaming would be fulfilled. “This decision was taken in the GST council meeting that it will come into effect from October 1. So if there’s any requirement for it (notifications and rules), all those will be fulfilled,” he said, adding that a review will be taken six months after implementation and the difficulties will be looked at that time.

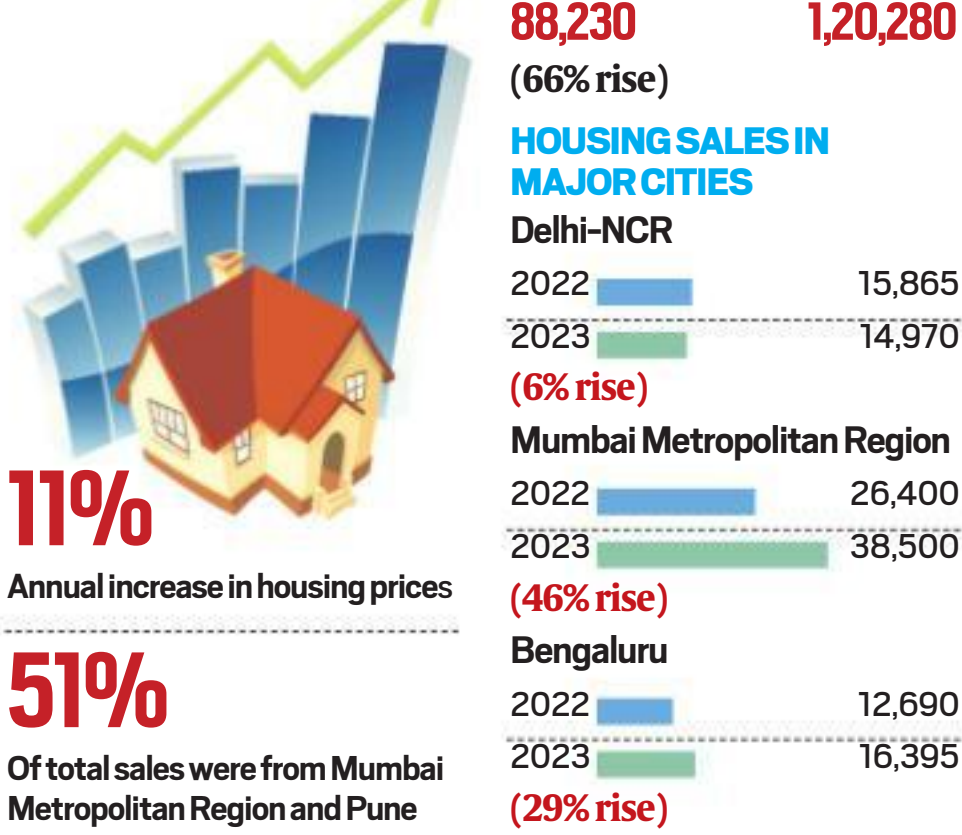
The GST Council in its meeting on July 11 had decided to levy a uniform 28 per cent tax on full face value for online gaming, casinos and horse racing. However, after concerns raised by some states,

the Council in its 51st meeting on August 2 had decided to levy 28 per cent tax at face value at entry level. The Council gave some relief by deciding not to impose the tax levy on the amount entered into games/bets out of winnings of previous games/bets in online money gaming or on total value of each bet placed, as would be the case in casinos.

Last month, the Centre passed the required legal amendments in the Central GST (CGST) and Integrated GST (IGST) laws in the Parliament to give effect to the Council’s decision. States are also required to make the corresponding legal changes in their State GST laws to bring it into effect. So far, close to a dozen states are learnt to have passed the required amendments or ordinances. Some states, like Goa, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, have passed ordinances. Karnataka is reported to have deferred its decision to approve the ordinance to the next Cabinet meeting

Housing sales in seven cities touch a record

Robust demand and a stable mortgage rate drove a 66% rise in quarterly housing sales across seven major cities to a record high, as per realty consultant Anarock



CAD in Q1 narrows from last year but widens sequentially

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 28

INDIA’S CURRENT account deficit (CAD) narrowed to \$9.2 billion (1.1 per cent of GDP) in the first quarter (April-June) of 2023-24 from \$17.9 billion (2.1 per cent of GDP) in the same period last year. But it was higher than the \$1.3 billion (0.2 per cent of GDP) in the preceding quarter. A deficit in the current account indicates that a country’s imports (including goods, services and investments) are greater than its exports.

The widening of CAD on a quarter-on-quarter basis was primarily on account of higher trade deficit coupled with a lower surplus in net services and decline in private transfer re-

EXTERNAL DEBT AT \$629.1 BILLION

Mumbai: India’s external debt was placed at \$629.1 billion as of June 2023, recording an increase of \$4.7 billion over its level at end-March 2023. The external debt to GDP ratio declined to 18.6 per cent at end-June 2023 from 18.8 per cent at end-March 2023, RBI said. **ENS**

ceipts, the Reserve Bank of India said Thursday.

“Current account deficit is expected to rise on-quarter in the first quarter of FY24 as merchandise trade deficit has widened again and the services trade surplus has moderated a

tad,” said Dharmakirti Joshi, Chief Economist, CRISIL Ltd.

Madhavi Arora, Lead Economist at Emkay Global Financial Services, said the second quarter of FY24 will see a substantial widening of CAD led by sequential worsening of trade balance, led by higher oil and core imports, and slowing services exports. All of this will imply that the Q2 CAD/GDP ratio could be more than double of Q1 FY24, ranging from 2.4-2.6 per cent, Arora said.

The central bank said net services receipts decreased sequentially, primarily owing to a decline in exports of computer, travel and business services. But these receipts remained higher on a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, RBI said. **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

NOMURA REPORT

OMCs incurring under-recoveries of over ₹7/litre on petrol, diesel sales

SUKALP SHARMA

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

THE RISE in international crude oil prices and petrol and diesel margins over the past few weeks has pushed into the red the marketing margins of public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs), which are estimated to be incurring under-recoveries of Rs 7.4 per litre on sales of the two fuels, according to a recent report by Nomura.

According to industry insiders, high under-recoveries, in effect, dash the hopes of a cut in petrol and diesel prices, at least for the time being.

Under-recoveries refer to the difference between the retail price and the international price of the fuel. As per the pricing methodology followed by the OMCs, petrol and diesel prices should be revised every day based on the 15-day rolling average of international benchmark prices. However, the companies have not revised prices since early April of last year, when global crude oil and fuel prices had surged in the aftermath of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

“Blended marketing margins declined to –INR 4.7/litre in the week ended 24 September 2023 from –INR 2.9/litre in the previous week, with the OMCs now recording under-recoveries of INR 7.4/litre on the sale of auto fuels. Blended marketing margins have now declined sharply 80% q-q (quarter-on-quarter) to below normative levels of INR 2/litre in 2Q FY24-TD (July-September quarter till date), as crude prices and products

REUTERS

HOUSTON, SEPTEMBER 28

OIL PRICES surged 3% on Wednesday to the highest settlement in 2023, after a steep drop in US crude stocks compounded worries of tight global supplies.

Brent crude futures closed up \$2.59, or 2.8%, at \$96.55. It breached \$97 a barrel during the session.

Ashwin Dani, ex-Asian Paints chairman, dies

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU

MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 28

ASHWIN DANI, the former chairman and non-executive director of Asian Paints, has died, the company said Thursday. He was 79.

Associated with the company since 1968, Dani was a strong force in driving it to technological excellence. Dani joined the company’s board in 1970. He was its vice-chairman and managing director from 1998 to 2009. After 2009, he was non-executive director and vice chairman. Between 2018 and 2021,

spreads increased, while retail product prices remained unchanged,” Nomura said in a report earlier this week.

After incurring heavy under-recoveries for much of last year, the OMCs were trying to recoup their accumulated losses from 2022-23 (FY23) in the current financial year. There were indications from the government and the OMCs that they could revert to daily price revisions soon as most of their last year’s accumulated losses had been recouped. Till a few weeks back, there was anticipation that petrol and diesel prices could soon see a cut.

However, with international oil prices and fuel spreads, or margins, having risen substantially leading to under-recoveries again, the resumption of daily price revisions in line with global rates and reduction in fuel prices may only be a distant possibility. In such a scenario, a fuel price cut can only be achieved if the government cuts taxes on the petrol and diesel, like it did on two occasions over the past couple of years, or the OMCs – Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) – decide to bear deeper losses at the government’s behest.

It is worth noting that the recent Rs 200-per-cylinder cut in cooking gas prices is, at least for now, being absorbed by the OMCs. The government has so far not said in clear terms if at all it plans to foot the bill for the cooking gas price cut by compensating the OMCs at a later date.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

Brent hits \$97 amid supply worries

US West Texas Intermediate crude futures (WTI) climbed \$3.29, or 3.6%, to \$93.68. The session high was over \$94.

US crude stocks fell by 2.2 million barrels last week to 416.3 million barrels, government data showed, far exceeding the 320,000-barrel drop analysts expected in a Reuters poll.

Crude stocks at the Cushing, Oklahoma, storage hub, delivery point for US crude futures, fell by

Oil spoils market mood; VIX rises 11%

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 28

BENCHMARK INDICES ended lower on Thursday as rising crude oil prices and weaker global cues dampened the market mood. The market was dragged down by declines in IT, technology, fast moving consumer goods, consumer durables and automobile stocks.

The BSE declined over 610 points, about 0.92%, to close at 65,508.32, while the NSE fell about 193 points, about 0.98%, to end the day at 19,523.55.

S&P BSE Information Technology index fell 1.84% followed by S&P BSE FMCG index, which fell 1.74%. S&P BSE Teck, S&P BSE Consumer Durables and S&P BSE Auto indices declined 1.49%, 1.29% and 1.24%, respectively on Thursday.

The fall resulted in investor wealth declining by ₹2.95 trillion to ₹316.7 trillion during the session.

Ambareesh Baliga, independent market analyst, said that along with higher oil prices and weak global cues, the hawkish stance of US Federal Reserve, where there are fears of a rate hike at the end of 2023, continues to worry investors. This will have a negative impact as more institutional money will flow out.

“Nifty has good support at 19,500-19,600. If the market cracks from there, then one will see a sharper correction of about 750-1,000 points on the Nifty,” said Baliga, adding that this band is being closely watched.

The fall in Sensex was largely due to fall in IT stocks.

Meanwhile, the NSE Nifty 50 Volatility Index (VIX), which is a gauge of expected volatility over the course of the next 30 days, rose 11% – the most since March 13, according to Bloomberg. **FE**

BRIEFLY

ICICI Lombard gets ₹1,728 cr GST notice

Mumbai: The Directorate General of GST Intelligence has served a ₹1,728 crore notice on ICICI Lombard General Insurance for non-payment of tax in certain supplies between July 2017 and March 2022. The insurance sector is pushing for a reduction in GST on health policies to bring more people under the insurance umbrella. There’s speculation that the GST Council is likely to reduce the GST on health policies from 18 per cent. The company said the notice refers to matters relating to industry-wide issues, adding that it will file an appropriate response within the prescribed timelines. **ENS**

Mubadala in talks for stake in Manipal

Mumbai: Mubadala is in talks to acquire less than 10% in Manipal Hospitals, in what could be the Abu Dhabi sovereign fund’s first investment in Indian healthcare. It is holding talks with Temasek, which spent \$2 billion in April to raise its stake in Manipal to 59% from 18% in the biggest hospital deal in India. The talks are at the same April valuation of \$5 billion. **REUTERS**

Ministry finalising policy on civic waste use in road building: Gadkari

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

UNION ROAD Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Thursday said his ministry is finalising a policy on the use of municipal waste in road construction.

Addressing a press conference, Gadkari further said the government is considering offering incentives to construction equipment manufacturers for not using fossil fuels.

“We are finalising the policy for using municipal waste in road construction,” he said.

Gadkari said his ministry has formulated a draft policy that will promote use of alternative fuel in construction equipment to reduce cost and dependence on fossil fuels.

The road ministry is in talks



Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari with MoS V K Singh in New Delhi on Thursday. PTI

with the finance ministry for approval, he said.

“Incentives like interest subvention scheme can be worked out so that concessionaires or contractors can invest in con-

struction equipment running on alternate fuels instead of fossil fuels,” the minister said.

Gadkari said his ministry has taken several initiatives to decarbonise the transport sector.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

It is for general information that I, Basruddin Khan, S/o Sattar Ahmed, residing at, H.No. C-20, Defence Colony, Bhopura, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201005, declare that name of mine has been Wrongly written as Bashruddin in my son namely Vakil Khan in his Marksheet. The actual name of mine is Basruddin Khan, which may be amended accordingly.

I, Butta Singh S/o Samunder Singh, R/o H.No.113, Block No.-K5, Mohan Garden, Uttam-Nagar, Delhi, inform that Butta given name Singh Surname, for all Purposes.

I Arun Kumar Jha, S/o-Navkant Jha R/o-Plot No.11, Gali No.12A, Janta Enclave, Prem Nagar-3, Kiriari, Shivam Model Public School, Delhi-110086 inform that my name Wrongly- Written in My-Son (Shivam Kumar)-School-Record as Arun Kumar instead of Arun Kumar Jha.

I, Meenakshi D/o Late Sh. Narendrakumar Madan R/o C-88, First Floor, Shakti Nagar Extension, Near Kail Mandir, Ashok Vihar Phase-3, Delhi-110052 have changed my name from Meenakshi to Meenakshi Madan for all purposes.

I, Nishu D/o Krishan residing at Pughthala, Pughthala (124) Sonipat, Haryana-131102 have changed my name to Nishu Sharma and shall hereafter known as Nishu Sharma

I, Amit Kumar S/o Shri Chander Bhan R/o, A-38/2, Yadav Nagar Samaypur, Delhi-110042, have changed my daughter's name from Akeera to Arshi for all future purposes

I, Ankit Sumitkumar Shrivastava S/o Shri Sumit Kumar Virenderkumar Shrivastava R/o 466, Sector-3, Shakti Nagar, Bhopal Madhya Pradesh-462024 declare that Ankit Sumitkumar Shrivastava and Ankit Shrivastava are both names of one and same person. That, I shall be known as Ankit Sumitkumar Shrivastava for all future purposes.

I, Devender Kumar @ Devender Arora S/o Jagdish Chand R/o-12/44, Subhash Nagar, Delhi-110027 have changed my name to Devender

I, Devendra Solanki S/o Pherru Singh R/o-403/5, Govindpuri, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, Confirm that in my Daughter School Record her name has been wrongly written as Pari Solanki instead of Kiara Solanki. Correct name of my Daughter in Kiara Solanki.

I, Kamal Kumar Sharma S/o Mr. S.M.Sharma R/o House No-G/181, Gamma-2 Greater Noida G.B.nagar Have Changed my Name From Kamal Sharma to Kamal Kumar Sharma for all future purposes.

I, Karan Kumar S/o Raj Kumar R/o- House No.219, 3rd Floor, Sainik Vihar, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name Karan Kumar to Karan Arora for all purposes.

I, Hitherto known as SUDESH, W/O Late RADHE SHYAM BATRA, R/O W-2-3182, Mahindra-Park Rani-Bagh delhi-110034, Have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as DAYA RANI.

I, Hitherto known as KANWAL RAJ GORYAN alias KANWAL RAJ, S/O RAM CHANDER, R/O HOUSE.NO-1743/31, CIRCULAR-ROAD, NEAR-JHAJJAR CHUNGI CHOWK KAMLA NAGAR, ROHTAK, HARYANA-124001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as KANWAL RAJ.

I, Yashica D/o Sh. Raj Kumar R/o B-370, Jwala Puri, Camp No.4, Sunder Vihar, Delhi-87 have changed my name to Yashica Mahendru for all purposes.

I, Virendera Rustagi, S/o Late Shri Ramavtar Rustagi, R/o-House No-47, Sector-13 Vasundhara Ghaziabad, U.P.-201012, have changed my name to Virendra Rustagi.

I, Vijay Kumar Madan, S/o Satish Kumar Madan R/o-Tower.No.12, Flat.No.601, Sunshine, County Sector-63, Badkhalsa (41) Sonipat Haryana-131029, changed my name to Vijay Kumar Madaan, permanently.

I, Suresh, W/o Bhim Singh, R/o H.No-35 Masih-Garh New Friends-Colony Delhi-110025, Have Changed My Name To Suresh Devi.

I, Sivakama Sundari, D/O Venkatraman Ramanathan, R/O 1219, B-1, Vasant-Kunj, New Delhi-110070, Have Changed my Name to Ramanathan Sivakama Sundari.

I, Sourav Kumar S/o Ashok Kumar R/o H.No.-F-9, Shatabdi enclave, Sector-49, Noida, UP-201301 have changed my name to SAURABH KUMAR for all future purposes.

I, Sanjay Mittal, S/O Om Parkash, R/O.H.No-667, Urban-Estate Near-Mangal Bazar, Sector-5, KARNAL (Haryana)-132001, Have Changed my Name to Sanjay Gupta.

I, Saarthak Subbiah Ravi, S/O Subbiah Ravi R/O-74-1101, Satya The Hermitage, Sector-103, Daulatabad (53), Gurgaon (Haryana) -122006, have changed my name to Saarthak Ravi, for all Purposes.

I, SANYA SINGH SETHI, W/o Sh. Ishpreet Singh Sethi, R/o, J-5/122, 1st-Floor, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Sanya Singh.

I, Punam Agarwal alias Poonam W/o Madhav Sharan Agrawal, R/o H-75, Garhwali Mohalla Laxmi-nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to PUNAM AGRAWAL.

I, Pradumn, S/o Rajeev Sharma, R/o 37/72, Gali, No.4 Mahabir Park Bahadurgarh Distt. Jhajjar, Haryana, changed my name to Pradumn Sharma.

I, Kiran D/o, Ishwar Singh, R/o H, O, Shamnagar 168 Kosli, Rewari, Haryana-123302, have changed my name to Kiran Yadav, for all, future purposes.

I, KANAN JAIN, D/O-AMIT JAIN, R/O-A-4/328, Sunnise Apartment, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to AAMNA JAIN.

I, JASPAL SINGH, S/O-UMRAV SINGH, R/O H.O.D-242, 3RD-FLOOR, GALLI NO.6, SHANKAR MARG, MANDWALI, SHAKAR PUR BARAMAD, SHAKARPUR, EAST-DELHI, DELHI-110092, have changed the name of my-minor son YASHVI SAINI aged 08 years and he shall hereafter be known as YASHASVI SAINI.

I, Harpreet Kaur @ Har Preet Kaur, D/o-Surinder Singh, W/o-Manjeet Singh, R/o-A-8, Lehri Colony, near Hedgewar hospital, East Arjun Nagar, Shahdara, North East Delhi-110032, declare that both names are mine and same person and hereafter be known as Harpreet Kaur.

I, Harish Singh R/o Prabhu Dayal R/o, F-77, First-Floor, West Jawahar-Park, Laxmi-Nagar, Shakarpur, East Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Harish Malhotra.

I, Girish Chandra Sharma, S/o-Sada Nand Sharma, R/o D-204, Bindapur, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, Have Changed My Name to Girish Chandra, for all Purposes.

I, Indira Kumari, W/o Deepak Sharma, R/o 587, Baba Farid Puri, New Delhi-8, have changed my name to Indu Sharma.

I, Blessing Ezinwanneamaka Kamalu, D/o Kamalu Kingsley Chinedu, R/o Flat.No.4, H.No-75/E, Maidan Garhi, Delhi-110068, Have Changed My Name To Blessing Kamalu.

I, Ajeet Singh, R/O-C-142, Beta-1, Greater Noida, District Gautam Buddha Nagar, U.P., have changed my son's name Aadvik Singh to Vaideik Singh for all future purposes.

I, Santosh Kumari W/o Devender Arora R/o-12/44, Subhash Nagar, Delhi-110027 have changed my name to Santosh Arora.

I, Puja Kumari W/o Sh. Shailander Singh R/o Flat No.202, Plot No.1C-Block, Hari Vihar, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078 do hereby solemnly inform that in my daughter's birth record her name is written as Pratigya instead of Pratigya Singh.

I, Sanjeev Duggal Father of Nitya R/O G-6 Pocket A-11 Surya Apartment DDA Flats Kalkaji Extension New Delhi -110019 have changed my minor Daughter's (DOB- 14/08/2009) Name from Nitya to Nitya Duggal permanently

I, Deepak Kumar S/o Sawan Ram have lost my property original, papers file of property plot, factory Khasra, No-49 Madanpur, Dabas, Lal Dora, Kanjhawala Delhi-110081. File containing, Original GPA, Sale of Agreement, Lal dora certificate and complete chain of documents Finder may call upon the No. Given below-98100-79949.

LOST & FOUND

I, Suresh, W/o Bhim Singh, R/o H.No-35 Masih-Garh New Friends-Colony Delhi-110025, Have Changed My Name To Suresh Devi.

I, Sivakama Sundari, D/O Venkatraman Ramanathan, R/O 1219, B-1, Vasant-Kunj, New Delhi-110070, Have Changed my Name to Ramanathan Sivakama Sundari.

I, Sourav Kumar S/o Ashok Kumar R/o H.No.-F-9, Shatabdi enclave, Sector-49, Noida, UP-201301 have changed my name to SAURABH KUMAR for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mrs. Alka Gupta to general public that the some Original Sale Deed's dated 24.08.1995, 02.11.1988 and 04.05.2004 which was registered in SR I, New Delhi, related to the Property bearing Number No. 5583, area measuring 85 sq. yds, situated at Ward VI, in the area of Village Kucha Khan Chand, Nai Sarak, Delhi, 110008, have been lost/misplaced. Public is being warned not to deal with the documents. Any person dealing with the aforesaid documents would do so at their own risk and responsibility. Owner shall not be liable in any manner whatsoever for any loss incurred by such persons. If anybody found these documents OR notice any misuse of these documents, Concerned Person is required to communicate the address given below on 23.09.2023 vide F.I.R. has been lodged on 23.09.2023 vide F.I.R. No. 933141/2023, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to public at large that my client Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., 2nd Floor, Ambadeep Building, K.G. Marg, New Delhi 110001 that Original Sale Deed dated 23.06.2008 executed by Mr. Jagdeep Singh in favour of Mr. Jayveer Singh Bedi vide Document No. 15837, Book No.1, Vol. No. 7043, PG 457-490, SRD-I, Ghaziabad, Regd. on 23.06.2008 with respect to Second Floor having covered area of 81 Sautres, built on property bearing No. 416, Shakti Khand IV, Indraprasth, Ghaziabad, U.P. were deposited with ING Vysya Bank for obtaining Home Loan. The ING Vysya bank got amalgamated with Kotak Mahindra Bank in Year 2014. After closure of the loan above mentioned property document is not traceable at Kotak Mahindra Bank. F.I.R. in respect of Lost documents ISO No.4301/2014 Delhi Police was lodged online vide LR No. 910891/2023 dated 20.09.2023 and further revised online F.I.R. has been lodged on 25.09.2023 vide F.I.R. No. 933141/2023, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Any person/s finds the above mentioned document is requested to send/submits at Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., 2nd Floor, Ambadeep Building, K.G. Marg, New Delhi 110001 that Original Sale Deed dated 23.06.2008 executed by Mr. Jagdeep Singh in favour of Mr. Jayveer Singh Bedi vide Document No. 15837, Book No.1, Vol. No. 7043, PG 457-490, SRD-I, Ghaziabad, Regd. on 23.06.2008 with respect to Second Floor having covered area of 81 Sautres, built on property bearing No. 416, Shakti Khand IV, Indraprasth, Ghaziabad, U.P. were deposited with ING Vysya Bank for obtaining Home Loan. The ING Vysya bank got amalgamated with Kotak Mahindra Bank in Year 2014. After closure of the loan above mentioned property document is not traceable at Kotak Mahindra Bank. F.I.R. in respect of Lost documents ISO No.4301/2014 Delhi Police was lodged online vide LR No. 910891/2023 dated 20.09.2023 and further revised online F.I.R. has been lodged on 25.09.2023 vide F.I.R. No. 933141/2023, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Rec. Entire Third Floor, with roof rights, built on Property bearing No. 97-98, admeasuring 125.66 sq. yajrs, situated at Double Storey, New Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi - 110060; hereinafter referred as "said property".

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Amit Kumar Khurana, Advocate, For M/s Intelective Law Offices, A-74, Lower Ground Floor, Defence Colony, New Delhi-110024

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Platform Engineering - II, State Bank Global IT Centre,
Sector 11, CBD Belapur

Corrigendum - 2

RFP No.: SBI/GITC/Platform Engineering-II/2023/2024/1034
dated: 28.08.2023

State Bank of India has issued an RFP for procurement, installation, commissioning and maintenance of SMS gateway solution for a period of 07 years. Corrigendum - 2 has been published. Please see the "Procurement News" at Bank's site <https://www.sbi.co.in> or <https://bank.sbi>.

Place: Navi Mumbai

Date: 29.09.2023

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager (PE - II)

कार्यालय जिला कलक्टर एवं जिला मजिस्ट्रेट झुंझुनू

क्रमांक एफ () लेखा/टेण्डर/2023-24/1524 दिनांक:- 26.09.2023

Bid For Selection of Agencies for Printing of JAN SAMMAN KIT (Estimated Value 1.10 Crore) are invited from interested bidders upto 29.09-2023 till 10:00 AM other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state and www.jhunjhunu.rajasthan.gov.in department website.

NIB No. CJN2324X0011

UBN CJN2324GLOB00026

हस्ता/-
अतिरिक्त जिला कलक्टर झुंझुनू

DIPR/C/...../2023

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Dinesh Manjhi S/o Sh. Ramji Pandey R/o H.No. 1216, Gali No. 2, Ashok Yadav Ka Makan, near Nala Road, Kapashera, Delhi** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 209/2020 U/S 188/269 IPC, P.S. Kapashera, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Dinesh Manjhi** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Dinesh Manjhi** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant); Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Dinesh Manjhi** of case **FIR No. 209/2020 U/S 188/269 IPC, P.S. Kapashera, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint/case on or before **21.11.2023**.

By Order
Ms. Apoorva Rana
Metropolitan Magistrate-10
Room No. 316, 3rd Floor
Dwarka Courts, New Delhi

DP/10718/SW/2023(Court Matter)

Suspect/Wanted persons/ For Identification



General Public is hereby informed that one male namely **Name: Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown** (Shown in Picture) who had hit a woman with his two-wheeler on 22.08.2023 at 8.00 pm near BRT Road, near Lajpat Nagar, Metro and absconded after getting admitted to AIIMS Trauma Center for treatment. Where the woman died during treatment. In this regard a case vides FIR No. 590/23, Dt.: 23.08.2023 U/s 279/304A, IPC at PS: Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi. The description of wanted male is as under: **Height: 57", Face: Round, Built: Medium, Complex: Fair, Wearing: Pink color Shirt & black color pant.** If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S., Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi
Ph : 011-29832456
8750870927

DP/10452/SE/2023

RAJASTHAN HOUSING BOARD
No. 469
NIB: 06/2023-24
Date:- 28.09.2023

Bids for (1) Boom Barrier work of Coaching Hub at Sector-16, Pratap Nagar, Sanganer, Jaipur. (2) Drinking water facilities in shopping arcade (Coaching Hub) at Sector-16, Pratap Nagar, Sanganer, Jaipur. (3) Cap-1000 ltr/hr R.O. Plant with complete Accessories, Cap-2000 ltr storage tank with 2 ton-2 unit Compressors insulation, Plumbing work with material with civil & Iron fiber sheet for plant room Work, Pipe line insulation with fitting including two year maintenance of RO project complete at Coaching Hub, Sector-16, Pratap Nagar, Sanganer, Jaipur. (4) Maintenance (for one year including watch ward, water supply, power, housing keeping & general cleaning, common electric & sanitary, plumbing services) of Shopping Arcade at Coaching Hub, Sector-16, Pratap Nagar, Sanganer, Jaipur. (5) Maintenance (for one year including watch ward, water supply, power, housing keeping & general cleaning, common electric & sanitary, plumbing services) at Coaching Hub, Sector-16, Pratap Nagar, Sanganer, Jaipur are invited from interested bidders from 29.09.2023 to 08.10.2023 up to 6:00 PM. Other particular of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state & <http://urban.rajasthan.gov.in/rhb> department website.

UBN : (1) RHB2324WSOB00330 (2) RHB2324WSOB00331 (3) RHB2324WSOB00332(4) RHB2324WSOB00333 (5) RHB2324WSOB00334
Raj. Samwad/C/23/10245
Resident Engineer, Div-X, Jaipur

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY
E-Tendering Tender Notice No. 39/2023

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.)
N.E. Railways Izatnagar for and behalf of President of India invites 'OPEN' e-tender through on Line (E-tendering) for the following work:- S.N.: 1-
Description of works: Provision of additional one span at Bridge No. 80 in Km 60/3-4 between NOH-SZN station under ADEN/PBE, **Approx Value (₹): ₹ 95,08,579.91, E.M.D. Money (₹): ₹ 1,90,200/-, Cost of Tender Forms (₹): ₹ NIL, Completion time/period from the date of issue of acceptance letter: 06 Months, S.N.: 2- Description of works:** Repair of C.C. road sick line, Replacement of broken sick line roof sheet and repair of sick line floor at KGM, **Approx Value (₹): ₹ 38,94,976.57, E.M.D. Money (₹): ₹ 77,900/-, Cost of Tender Forms (₹): ₹ NIL, Completion time/period from the date of issue of acceptance letter: 06 Months. Note: (1) On line e-tender can be submitted up to 15:00 hrs of dated 18.10.2023. (2) For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in**
Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.) CPROW-336 Izatnagar
"DO NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN"

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-TENDER NOTICE NO. - ECR-CAO-C-N-ETN-44-23-24
E-TENDER IS INVITED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA FOR THE UNDER MENTIONED WORK:
S.No. (1). Name of work with its location :supplying of 50,000.00 cum 50 mm size machine crushed track ballast as per Railway RDSO's specification for B.G.Railway track & loading the same into any type of railway wagons F.O.R. Pakur/Rajgram siding for various projects under CAO/Con/North, ECR.
(2) Approx. cost of the work of : Rs.7,29,04,500.00 **(3) Bid Security Amount :** Rs. 5,14,500.00 **(4) Date and time for closing of tender :** 18.10.2023 at 14.30 hrs. **(5) Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and addressed of the office from where the tender form is purchased etc. :** The above E-Tender, E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. **Note :** In case of any discrepancies found in tender notice, English version will be final. Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> atleast 15 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/ corrections etc in response to this E-tender.
CAO/Con/North/MHX, Patna PR/01253/CONN/ENGG/T/23-24/40

Govt. of Bihar										
Rural Works Department										
Notice Inviting Tender (No.-RWD/MMGSY(AWSESH)/HQ/ET/2023-24/15)										
The Government of Bihar has applied for a loan/credit through the Govt. of India (GoI), to the New Development Bank (NDB), for Bihar Rural Roads Project (Phase-II) (Mukhya Mantri Gram Sampark Yojana-AWSESH) and intends to apply the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of works as detailed in the Table-1.										
Engineer-in-Chief, Rural Works Department, on behalf of Governor of Bihar invites, SBD based Percentage rate tender in electronic tendering system under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sampark Yojana-AWSESH for each of the following works including their maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with RWD/RCD/CPWD/MES /Railways/Other State/Central Govt. departments.										
Table-1										
Sl. No.	Package	Description of the Works [CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ROADS (A) / BRIDGES (B)]		Length (KM)	Construction Amount (In Lacs)	Maintenance Amount (In Lacs)	Total Amount (In Lacs)	Earnest Money Payable* (In Lacs)	Amount Payable to Works Division	
1	2		From To	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-313-KATIHAR	A1	Part-A:- Katihar Dandkhora Road Parjani Pul	Kurbani Bhatta	0.440	28.309	5.238	33.547	8.808	Katihar
		B1	Part-B:- Construction of HL RCC Bridge Span 2x14.50m Across Water Logging Area on Kurbani Bhatta at CH-70m with Protection work & Approach Road=100m		30.26 m	402.147	4.702	406.849		
		1		0.570	430.456	9.940	440.396			
2	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-314-BANKA-1	A1	Swasthya Upkendra Rajapur	Paswan Tola Rajapur	0.200	22.274	1.443	23.717	2.761	Banka-1
		A2	English More Shambhuganj RCD Road	Paswan Tola	0.300	29.980	2.001	31.981		
		A3	Sahpur Katoria Road	Balua	0.200	23.035	1.443	24.478		
		A4	Sahpur Katoria Road	Balua Harijan Tola	0.230	25.773	1.822	27.595		
		A5	Amarpur Bhagalpur to Mahagama	Mahagama Tola	0.260	28.522	1.750	30.272		
		5		1.190	129.584	8.459	138.043			
3	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-315-BANKA-1	A1	Nahar Pul	Middle School Khasbagha	0.210	24.194	1.437	25.631	2.760	Banka-1
		A2	Khajuri Road	Anusuchit Jati Tola	0.175	19.101	1.477	20.578		
		A3	Sahdhopur Road	Bathan	0.200	23.041	1.374	24.415		
		A4	Narsandi Road	Chotara Bind Tola School	0.575	63.414	3.983	67.397		
		4		1.160	129.750	8.271	138.021			
4	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-316-BANKA-2	A1	Namua	Changeri	1.315	143.962	15.287	159.249	7.053	Banka-2
		A2	Navtoliya	Chachara Haripur Nahar Path	0.660	72.449	7.746	80.195		
		A3	Mahuadhi Path to Dharma Tola Path	Dharmatola Ghatvar Basti	0.970	103.080	10.103	113.183		
		3		2.945	319.491	33.136	352.627			
5	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-317-BANKA-2	A1	Dheriapathar	Bagicha Mirada Tola	2.250	249.187	25.079	274.266	14.552	Banka-2
		A2	Kali Mandir	Dumaria	3.900	408.898	44.426	453.324		
		2		6.150	658.085	69.505	727.590			
6	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-318-BANKA-2	A1	Rampur Pabra	Dulhandih	2.350	226.597	30.337	256.934	13.461	Banka-2
		A2	Bhatdiha	Paharpur	1.800	188.168	19.830	207.998		
		A3	Karjhousa Sathiyari Raod	Kubribel	1.075	115.412	10.518	125.930		
		A4	Maruawaran	Mahadalit Tola	0.500	77.072	5.114	82.186		
		4		5.725	607.249	65.799	673.048			
7	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-319-BANKA-2	A1	Titukura Mor	Barakola	1.200	144.376	14.845	159.221	8.332	Banka-2
		A2	Tonapathar Belhar Katoriya PWD Road	Tonapathar Das Tola	1.200	117.768	10.995	128.763		
		A3	Bagra Kalimandir	Birjapur	0.775	119.016	9.585	128.601		
		3		3.175	381.160	35.425	416.585			
8	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-320-BANKA-2	A1	Sanhaua Panjwara RCD Road (Ramkol, Anganwari Kendra)	Near Tunar Yadav and Gopal Yadav House	0.575	65.027	7.242	72.269	1.445	Banka-2
		1		0.575	65.027	7.242	72.269			
9	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-321-BANKA-2	A1	Tetariya Jharkhand Border Road	Ostabazar	0.875	90.565	11.363	101.928	13.487	Banka-2
		A2	Chiraiya More Indodih Road	Nauwadih	1.000	103.559	12.338	115.897		
		A3	Malbathan Jamdaha Road	Daddubaghat	1.000	100.035	11.268	111.303		
		A4	Jaipur Jamdaha RCD Road	Mahesmara	0.900	114.747	12.005	126.752		
		A5	Jaipur Jamdaha RCD Road	Dabrakol	1.135	204.779	13.691	218.470		
		5		4.910	613.685	60.665	674.350			
10	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-322-BANKA-2	A1	Jaipur Jamdaha RCD Road	Thamhan	1.600	178.875	20.587	199.462	17.445	Banka-2
		A2	Jaipur Jamdaha RCD Road	Mohipur Kurawa	0.700	78.612	7.054	85.666		
		A3	Jaipur Jamdaha RCD Road	Mahadeva Varan	0.750	83.140	8.152	91.292		
		A4	Malbathan Jamdaha Road	Barakola	1.230	125.088	14.881	139.969		
		A5	Malbathan Jamdaha Road	Jamua Tilha	0.600	65.135	6.478	71.613		
		A6	Jaipur Jamdaha RCD Road	Digghibandh Suman Tola	0.775	84.894	9.542	94.436		
		A7	Malhorichak Hethmadhiya Road	Bengal Gadh	0.525	57.699	6.094	63.793		
		A8	Logai Path Toamjhar	Kushi Dole	0.700	119.763	6.232	125.995		
		8		6.880	793.206	79.020	872.226			
11	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-323-BANKA-2	A1	Jakajore, Pipra More	Khakrna Village	1.700	182.605	21.044	203.649	13.373	Banka-2
		A2	Deoghar to Katoriya Road Om Nagar	Hirna	1.425	226.751	19.137	245.888		
		A3	Mathura More to Kenduwar Road	Khawa Aadiwashi Tola	1.850	197.370	21.735	219.105		
		3		4.975	606.726	61.916	668.642			
12	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-324-BANKA-2	A1	BGP Dumka Road to Bhawanipur	Near Sheo Temple	1.050	96.619	11.944	108.563	5.865	Banka-2
		A2	BGP Dumka RCD Road	Kapildeo Yadav	0.850	90.392	9.440	99.832		
		A3	Near House of Barun Paswan	Near House of Manoj Mandal	0.720	79.927	4.944	84.871		
		3		2.620	266.938	26.328	293.266			
13	MMGSY(AWSESH)-NDB-BRRP2-325-GOGARI	A1	RCD Road	Sipahi Singh Basa	2.800	336.536	11.657	348.193	6.964	Gogari
Total		1			2.800	336.536	11.657	348.193		

14	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-326- GOGARI	A1	Fango Gaon	Navtoliya	3.200	374.897	19.155	394.052	7.881	Gogari	
	Total		1		3.200	374.897	19.155	394.052			
15	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-327- SUPAUL	A1	Dallu Mandal House	Dhanik Lal Mandal	0.369	40.863	3.570	44.433	11.521	Supaul	
		A2	Hanuman Mandir	Chakla PWD Sima	0.905	93.536	7.348	100.884			
		A3	Chandani Chowk (Shiv Mandir) on Road No-6	Yadav Tola Dighiya	1.801	201.051	15.746	216.797			
		A4	NH-327A (Disko House)	PMGSY Road	1.009	113.186	8.533	121.719			
		A5	Narayan Pandit House	Kedar Pandit	0.756	86.374	5.848	92.222			
	Total		5		4.840	535.010	41.045	576.055			
16	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-328- SUPAUL	A1	Nirmali Marauna Road T01	Ratho Paswan Tola Ward 5	0.795	87.653	7.739	95.392	1.908	Supaul	
	Total		1		0.795	87.653	7.739	95.392			
17	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-329- SUPAUL	A1	Mahua, Dukhan Yadav House	Mahadalit Tola, Maheshwar Saday House	0.860	92.253	7.113	99.366	16.532	Supaul	
		A2	Majhari, Ayodhi Mandal Garden	NH-57	0.805	91.860	6.823	98.683			
		A3	Majhari Rameshwar Pandit Land	Majhari, Muslim Tola	1.567	177.722	14.205	191.927			
		A4	Koshi Bandh, Suraj Yadav Shop	Sathokhar Tola	1.099	126.182	8.735	134.917			
		A5	NH-57 Bhagat Mandal Land	Satyanarayan Mandal House	1.676	190.947	12.813	203.760			
		A6	NH-57 Ramkhelawan Mandal	Haripur Jilewi Mandal House	0.824	90.819	7.117	97.936			
	Total		6		6.831	769.783	56.806	826.589			
18	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-330- SUPAUL	A1	Veena to Baliyas Mushari MMGSY Road	Sundarpur Kumhar Tola	2.239	248.595	15.381	263.976	5.280	Supaul	
	Total		1		2.239	248.595	15.381	263.976			
19	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-331- TRIVENIGANJ	A1	Sikandar Rajak (Kushwaha W-11)	Nepali Tola	0.900	101.940	7.492	109.432	2.189	Triveniganj	
	Total		1		0.900	101.940	7.492	109.432			
20	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-332- VIRPUR	A1	Samda Bhawanipur Road	RWD Road Katia	1.390	158.260	11.603	169.863	13.193	Virpur	
		A2	RWD Road Rajpur Canal	Muslim Tola	2.235	266.138	17.389	283.527			
		A3	RWD Raod Rajpur Canal	RWD Road Kamalpur	2.246	181.375	24.861	206.236			
	Total		3		5.871	605.773	53.853	659.626			
21	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-333- VIRPUR	A1	RWD Road Ratanpura Puranibazar	Rajpur Canal Yadav Tola	1.927	204.857	15.031	219.888	11.605	Virpur	
		A2	Koshi Bandh 11 Km	RWD Road Pandit Tola	2.134	246.703	15.416	262.119			
		A3	NH-106	Koshi Bandh	0.803	92.812	5.427	98.239			
	Total		3		4.864	544.372	35.874	580.246			
22	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-334- VIRPUR	A1	RWD Road Nirmali	RWD Road Baisi Baluwa	1.238	141.647	9.826	151.473	16.147	Virpur	
		A2	RWD Road Ratanpura	RWD Road Dhena	0.506	57.650	4.316	61.966			
		A3	Canal Road 36	SH-91	2.956	283.003	32.684	315.687			
		A4	Indo Nepal Road	Ansari Tola Boarder Road	2.304	262.965	15.279	278.244			
	Total		4		7.004	745.265	62.105	807.370			
23	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-335- VIRPUR	A1	NH-57	Near Mandir, Ward No-8, Chikni, Panchayat Saraiarh	1.875	214.685	15.387	230.072	4.601	Virpur	
	Total		1		1.875	214.685	15.387	230.072			
24	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-336- BARSOI	A1	Talmoni Tola, Alhanda	PMGSY Road Teghara to Bidyapur	0.400	46.301	2.769	49.070	0.981	Barsoi	
	Total		1		0.400	46.301	2.769	49.070			
25	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-337-BAISI	A1	Kabristan	Kumharwa	1.100	126.407	11.395	137.802	2.756	Baisi	
	Total		1		1.100	126.407	11.395	137.802			
26	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-338- DHAMDAHA	A1	Aurahi Mathihani Road	Yadav Tola	1.225	141.252	14.047	155.299	3.106	Dhamdaha	
	Total		1		1.225	141.252	14.047	155.299			
27	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-339- MUNGER	A1	Khopapar Karaili Road	Khushamaha Tola	1.050	125.466	15.516	140.982	2.820	Munger	
	Total		1		1.050	125.466	15.516	140.982			
28	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-340- KHARAGPUR-TARAPUR	A1	Part-A:- Bhikhadih Road	Raikar Tanri Tola	1.012	87.143	12.427	99.570	6.125	Kharagpur-Tarapur	
		B1	Part-B:- Construction of RCC Box Bridge in Bhikhadih Road to Raikar Tanri Tola @ 0+920mt with Approach Road=50m			17.92 m	129.366	7.990			137.356
		A2	Near Dalmot Factory	Naugai North Tola Mahabal Chak	0.570	64.962	4.373	69.335			
	Total		2		1.650	281.471	24.790	306.261			
29	MMGSY(AWSESH)- NDB-BRRP2-341- KHARAGPUR-TARAPUR	A1	Part-A:- Amaiya Dholpahari School	Jawaharpur Naya Tola	1.320	142.602	21.873	164.475	6.091	Kharagpur-Tarapur	
		B1	Part-B:- Construction of RCC Box Bridge in Amaiya Dholpahari School to Jawahar Naya Tola @ 0+550m with Approach Road=50m			19.92 m	132.057	8.010			140.067
	Total		1		1.390	274.659	29.883	304.542			
	Grand Total		76			10561.422	890.600	11452.022			

Table-2	
Downloading of Bidding Documents	From 12.10.2023 (0900 Hours) to 02.11.2023 (1500 Hours)
Online Bid Submission last Date	on 02.11.2023 up to 1500 Hours
Offline Bid Submission last Date	on 02.11.2023 up to 1500 Hours
Online Bid Opening Date	on 02.11.2023 at 1530 Hours
Cost of Bid	Rs. 10000.00 per package (non-refundable) only in form of Demand Draft in favour of concerned Executive Engineer.
Place, date and time of Pre-Bid Meeting	Concerned office of Superintending Engineer on 20.10.2023 from 1100 Hours

विस्तृत जानकारी state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर देखी जा सकती है।	Engineer-in-Chief
PR- 009379 (R W D) 2023-24	Rural Works Department
नशे से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है	

(SEE SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Samsuddin R/o A-145/13, Gali No. 4, Krishana Puri, Mandwali, Delhi-110092** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in CC No. **8642/17 U/s 138 NI Act, PS Karol Bagh, Delhi** and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Samsuddin** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Samsuddin** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Samsuddin** of CC No. **8642/17 U/s 138 NI Act, PS Karol Bagh, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before dated **20.10.2023**

By Order
Sakshi Jaiswal

MM (NI Act)-05, Central District
Ground Floor, Room No. 02
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/10487/CD/2023
(Court Matter)

No. 427/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2 Date :- 27.09.2023

CORRIDGUM FOR BANKING OF ENERGY AGAINST TENDER SPECIFICATION No. 11/CE (COMM)/UPCL-11/2023-24(Banking of Energy)

The tender process and activities timeline modifications against tender specification No. 11/CE (COMM)/UPCL-11/2023-24 (Banking of Energy) are as under:-

Particulars	Date and time
Venue: Superintending Engineer(Commercial), UPCL, Victoria Cross Vijeta Gaba Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwari Road, Dehradun	
Last Date of request for purchase of tender document	12.10.2023 upto 12:00 hrs
Date of Bid Submission (START)	14.09.2023 from 10:00 hrs onwards
Date of Bid Submission (END)	12.10.2023 up to 17:00 hrs
Date of Bid Opening Technical (Part I)	13.10.2023 at 16:00 hrs
Date of Bid Opening Financial (Part II)	Shall be informed through email after conducting technical evaluation of the tender.
All other terms and conditions shall remain as per bid document of Tender No. 11/CE(CM)/UPCL-11/2023-24 (Banking of Energy) and its amendments/ corrigendum.	
Superintending Engineer (Commercial)	
"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION" Use L.E.D. Bulb to Save Electricity	
(Toll Free No. 1912) Pay Electricity Bill Online 24 x 7 from www.upcl.org (For information on Electricity theft, informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185 / Fax No. 0135-276999)	

SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE / CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BAHADURGARH	CONST. OF RAISING OF VARIOUS CC STREET AT JOHRI NAGAR IN WARD NO. 7, MC BAHADURGARH + 3 WORKS	CLOSING DATE 06.10.2023	95.27 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01276-298158 mcbgarh2016@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

The Chief Engineer P.W.D (Border Roads & NEC Works), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3 invites bid on behalf of Governor of Assam for **255 (Two Hundred Fifty Five) nos. of packages for Repair/Periodic Renewal of roads under Mukhya Mantrir Path Nabikaran Anchani (MMPNA) for the year 2023-24 in 125 (One Hundred Twenty Five) nos. LAC's of Assam amounting to Rs. 298.11 Crores (approx.) including GST etc. from approved and eligible contractors registered with PWRD, Assam.**

Detail may be seen from 09-10-2023 in the website <http://www.assamtenders.gov.in>. Amendment/Addendum to any SBD, if any, and further notifications shall appear in this website and also at the Office of the undersigned during office hours. The contractor/bidder must be registered with the Electronic Tendering Notice (ETS) of PWRD, Assam website <http://www.assamtenders.gov.in>.

Schemes are not yet sanctioned by the competent authority. In the event of non-sanction of the schemes, the bids may be cancelled and no claim whatsoever on this account shall be entertained from the bidders.

Note:- NIT Value is inclusive of GSTD (12%), Labour cess (1%) etc.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, PWRD
Border Roads & NEC Works
Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3.

Janasanyog/CF/2870/23/29-SEP-23

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJNA (PMGSY)

E-Procurement Notice

The Superintending Engineer, 6th Circle HP.PWD Kullu on behalf of the Governor of Himachal Pradesh invites them rate bids, in electronic tendering system, for construction of road under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna for the following work/including maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T/Railways/ other State Govt. / Central Govt. agencies. Nonregistered bidders may submit bids. However, the successful bidder has to register in appropriate class with appropriate authorities in HPPWD, within a period of one month.

District	Package No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in lacs)		Total cost (Rs. Lacs)	Period of Completion	Bid security (Rs.Lacs i.e.2% of the total cost.
			Construction	Maintenance			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Kullu	HP-06-151	Up gradation of Chhaki to Hallan road Km 0/0 to 9/595 (SH Construction of Retaining wall Breast wall Metalling and Tarring Earthen shoulder sign Board PCC V-Shape drain Metal Beam Missing CD and parapets under PMGSY-III (Batch-I) 2022-23	568.66 Lacs	57.67 Lacs	626.33 Lacs	18 Months	12.53 Lacs

1. Date of release of inviting for bids through e-procurement: at 10:00 AM on 29-09-2023

2. Cost of bid form:- Rs. 5000/- per package (non-refundable) only in form of Demand Draft.

3. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:- The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website www.pmgstyender.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). * Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: www.pmgstyender.gov.in.

Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidding already possessing the valid digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.

4. Submission of Original Documents:- The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4B(a) (ii) of ITB with the Superintending Engineer, 6th Circle, HP.PWD Kullu, on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand.

5. Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-tendering: on 07-10-2023 upto 05:00 PM

6. The site for the work is available.

7. Only online submission of bids is permitted, therefore; bids must be submitted online on website www.pmgstyender.gov.in. The technical qualification part of the bids will be opened online at 11:30 AM on 09-10-2023 by the authorized officers. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day at the same time.

8. The bidder is not required to quote his rate for routine maintenance. The rates to be paid for routine maintenance are indicated in the Bill of Quantities. Further, the performance of maintenance activities.

9. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than ninety days after the deadline date for bid submission.

10. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

11. "Contractors, who are having two or more pending works above one crore cost, where the stipulated period of the work is already over and pendency is due to the fault of the contractor as per the report of PIU, their bids will not be technically evaluated."

12. The department has right to extend or cancel the bids without assigning any reasons thereof.

Superintending Engineer,
6th Circle, HPPWD, Kullu

2972/HP

E-Tendering Tender Notice

Divisional Railway Manager (Works) North Central Railway, Jhansi for and behalf of President of India invites sealed **"Open Tender"** through on Line (**E-Tendering**) for the following work.

Description of work	E-Tender No.	Approx Cost	Earnest Money
Civil Engg. Work for 02 nos. passenger lifts at Datia station in connection with "JHS Div; Provision of 04 nos. passenger lifts at Datia and Orai stations".	JHS-ENGGS-N 2023/31	5629919.55	112600.00

Date of closing Tender: 23/10/2023 at 15:00 hrs.

Date of Completion/period from issue acceptance letter: 06 Months.

- Tender online can be submitted upto 15:00 hrs. on 23.10.2023.
- For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.treps.gov.in 1559/23(K)

www.northcentralrailway.in
www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in
www.cprnrcr.in



NSIC
New MDPB Building, 3rd Floor, Okhla Estate
(Opp. NSIC Okhla Metro Station), New Delhi-110020



Aardra
e-Governance
e-Marketplace

Open Tender Notice (e-Tendering mode only)

Online E-bids are invited for Design, Manufacture, Supply and Commissioning of 30 nos of 23 feet 3 Axle flat bed SEMI TRAILERs at MMPL-Mihan terminal of CONCOR through Two packet e-tendering mode.

Bid Reference	Tender No.CON/AREA-1/TECH/23/SEMI TRAILER-30/2023
Tendered Quantity	30 nos.
Estimated Cost	₹ 5.57 crore
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)*	₹10 Lakhs through online payment gateway to CONCOR
Cost of Document*	₹1,000 through online payment gateway to CONCOR
Tender processing fee (non-refundable)*	₹4720/- (Inclusive of Taxes) through online payment
Period of Tender Sale (online)	From 29.09.2023 at 16:00 Hrs to 14.10.2023 at upto 17:00 Hrs.
Date and time of Submission of Bid	16.10.2023 at 11:00 Hrs.
Date and time of opening of Bid	16.10.2023 at 15:00 Hrs.

*Through e-Payment

For eligibility criteria and other details please log into www.concorindia.com or eprocure.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL. Bidders are requested to visit the website regularly. CONCOR reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons therefor. For complete details log into www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL



GGM/TECH/A-1



TENDER NOTICE
Tel. 01899- 299219. cpwd-chowari@hp.gov.in
(online)

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer, Chowari Division, HPPWD, Chowari HP on behalf of Governor of HP Tender the following rate bids, in electronic tendering system from the eligible class in contractor registered with HP PWD for the following works as detailed in the table:-

No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest Money	Cost of tender form	Time limit	Eligible Class.
1	Periodical maintenance Bounkhari Mour to Dhuma (Nagali) road Km 6/0 to 8/0 under PMGSY Financial inclusion for the year 2023-24	Rs. 3207923/-	Rs. 64158/-	Rs. 1500	One Month	Class D & above

KEY DATES:-

1. Starting Date for downloading 29/09/2023 at 11.00 AM
2. Deadline for submission of bid 09/10/2023 at 11.00 AM
3. The date of Technical bid opening 09/10/2023 11.30 AM
4. The undersigned has right to extend or cancel the bids without declaring any reasons thereof.
5. The bidders are advised to not other detail of tender form the department website www.hptcner.gov.in

**Executive Engineer,
 Chowari Division,
 HPPWD, Chowari.**



CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)



No. CWCC CO-EDT/C7/2023 Tender Cell CO Dated: 25.08.2023

Notice Inviting Tender

Sr. No.	Description of Work	Tender Portal & Bid No.	Last Date & Time
1.	Construction of Rail Side PEB godown of 61,578 sqft capacity with Ancillary Buildings, roads, drainage, electrification with all etc. for CWC at RWC, Channali Bi Siding, Assam.	www.cwccprocure.com E_NIT_CWCC/CO/NIT/Engg/23-24/06	16.10.2023 up to 1500 hrs

For more details, please visit our website www.cwccorcln.in or Tender Portal www.cwccprocure.com

Tender Cell, Corporate Office, CWCC

The Executive Engineer/PIU -III RWD, **Daporijo, District**
Upper Subansiri on behalf of the Governor of Arunachal
 Pradesh invites item rate bids in electronic tendering system
 from approved and eligible Contractors registered under
 CPWD /PWD/BRO & Public sector Enterprises for PMGSY
 road and bridge projects in the District of Upper Subansiri, for
4 (four) Nos of Roads and 1 (one) No of Bridge, Name of
 Work, Package no, Estimated Cost, Earnest Money & other
 particulars can be viewed in the SBD available for download
 from www.pmgstyendersarn.gov.in between **30/09/2023 (1700**
hrs) to 15/10/2023 (1700 hrs).

On behalf of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, The Director General of Police, Arunachal Pradesh Itanagar invites Sealed Tenders under two bid systems (Technical & Financial Bid) from the manufactures/ authorized dealers /agents/suppliers of registered reputed firms of Arunachal Pradesh for entering into contract for supply of various traffic related items like traffic uniform, traffic equipments/ electronic items / fabricated equipments/ furniture/ stationery etc. for Road Safety & Traffic Police for Arunachal Pradesh during the year 2023-24. For details please visit our web site- www.arunpol.nic.in.

SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	THE SIRSA DISTT. COOP. MILK PRODUCERS UNION LIMITED (VITA SIRSA)	RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF CAUSTIC SODA FLAKES (GACL BRAND) FOR SIX MONTHS + 1 OTHER	30.09.2023 20.10.2023	1 LAKH	www.vitalindia.org.in	01666-2245059 vitasrs@gmail.com

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK/ NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE/ CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, ROHTAK	ESTIMATE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF KABIR PARK IN TEJ COLONY IN WARD NO. 6, M.C. ROHTAK + 4 WORKS	27.09.2023 11.10.2023	86.65 LACS	https://etenders.hrynic.in	xenmcrohtak@gmail.com

SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/END (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	THE SIRSA DISTT. COOP. MILK PRODUCERS UNION LIMITED (VITA SIRSA)	RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF CAUSTIC SODA FLAKES (GACL BRAND) FOR SIX MONTHS + 1 OTHER	30.09.2023 20.10.2023	1 LAKH	www.vitalindia.org.in	01666-2245059 vitasrs@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT:- www.harvansaenprocurement.gov.in or www.stenders.bihar.gov.in

No.	Name of Department	Sl. No. of the Tender and its NIT No.	Name of Corporation	Department	Cont. details/E-mail
1.	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA REWARI	NO 28936-A DATED 19.09.2023	E-QUOTATION AT NR. 2 IN PRICE SCHEDULE AND BOQ AT NR. 6.7 & 8 MAKE OF HRC FUSE MAY PLEASE BE READ AS BUSSMANN INSTEAD OF BUSSMANN PHONIX/ADGHC/S/ALMECH AND SHOULD BE SUITABLE FOR 3.3 KV. OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED	https://tenders.hrynic.in	01274298963-xan-mech@yahoo.com
2.	DISTRICT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY GURGRAM	DATED 11.09.2023	CONDITION UPDATED IN HOUSEKEEPING TENDER DATED 11.09.2023	gujram.gov.in	9899117303 DIGSGN173 @ GMAIL.COM
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeaprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in					21479/HRY

Details may be seen from **30-09-2023** at website **www.assamtenders.gov.in**. Amendment /Addendum to the SBD, if any, and further notifications shall appear in this website and also at the office of the undersigned during office hours. The contractor/bidder must be registered with the Electronic Tendering System (ETS) of PWRD, Assam website **www.assamtenders.gov.in**.

Note: N I T Value is inclusive of GST (12%) Labour cess (1%) etc.

Name of work	Approx. Value of Work (Rs.)	Category of APWD (B) registered contractor
Construction of Road in front of New Assam Legislative Assembly Entry Gate with Boundary Wall, RCC Drain, Footpath and Beautification as per Modified Design	1,59,25,515/-	Class-I (A/ B/C)

Note:- 1. Any modification of tender may be seen in the portal www.assamtenders.gov.in.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer, P.W.D.
Guwahati Building Circle-II

Janasanyog/C/10465/23/29-SEP-23